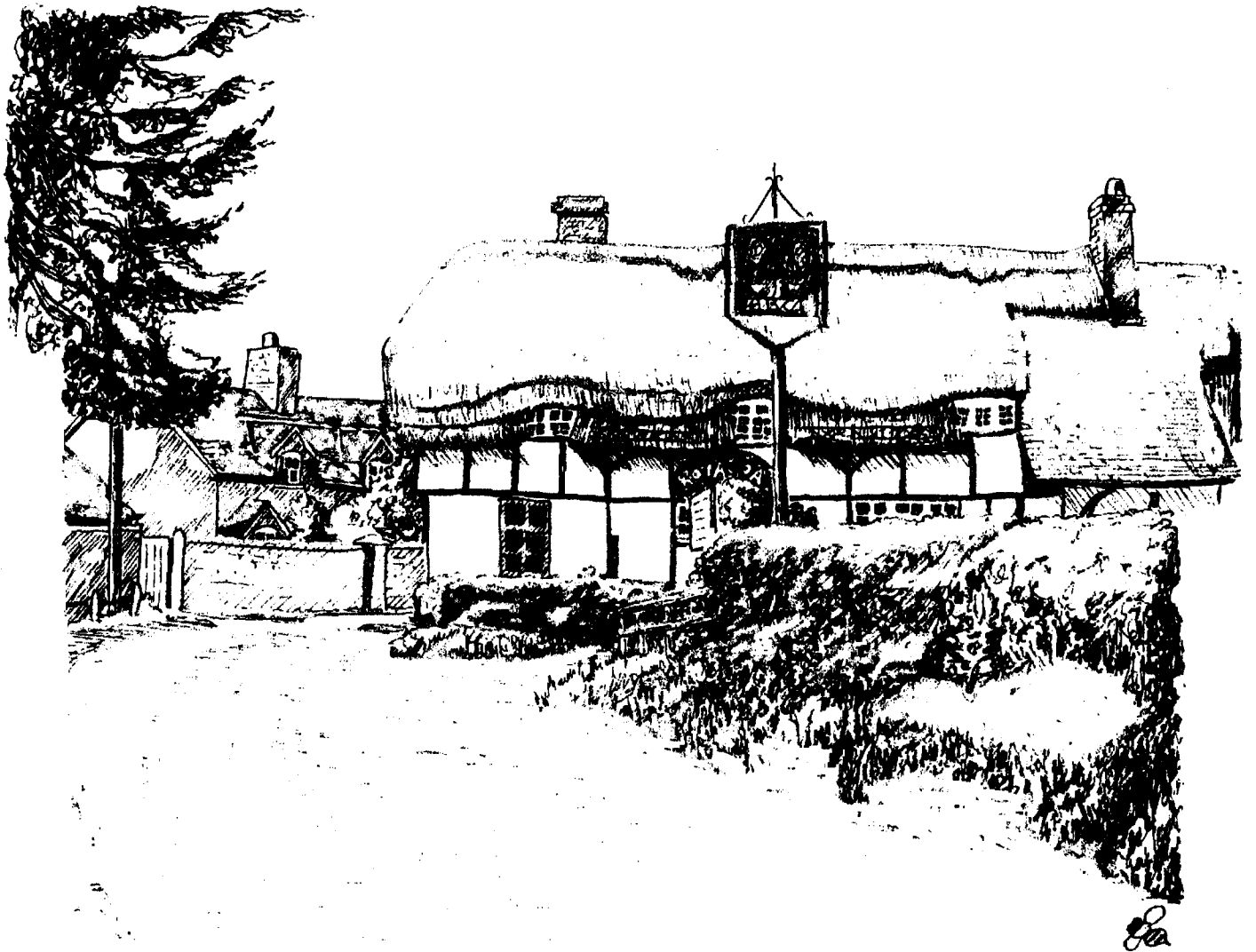


# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE  
ISSUE 198 FEBRUARY 2001



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The Chronicle online  
e mail us at  
[editor@aston-abbotts-chronicle.co.uk](mailto:editor@aston-abbotts-chronicle.co.uk)

# Editorial

## No Fete in 2001?

Does that sound scary? Well, there is a problem. Although a number of people are ready to serve on the committee and others are willing to do their bit, nobody has yet come forward to fill the essential post of Fete Coordinator.

Gordon Smith, who has performed this role on a number of occasions but is unable to do it this year, has written an article on page 9 describing what is involved. As he has said to me, it is not an onerous job but it is a serious job. Even if you cannot do it yourself, can you think of anybody else who might help out?

It is unthinkable that the Fete should be allowed to die through apathy. The Fete is the main fund raising activity for the village, providing desperately needed funds for many projects including the church and the Church Room. Which leads me on to...

## The Church Room

The Church Room, the Village Hall, call it what you will, this is the premier meeting place for the village as it is the only place of any size that can accommodate a wide range of activities, including the Toddler's Group, the Ladies Club and private parties. As you all know the Church Room desperately requires some redevelopment. These are essential improvements, necessary to bring the facilities into line with current regulations.

There will be a public meeting to discuss the way forward for this project on Tuesday February 6<sup>th</sup> and I hope that those who have made use of the Church Room in the past will give up an hour to attend the meeting to share views and ideas. Anybody who is interested is very welcome and, for those who want it, I'm sure there will be an opportunity to have a chat over a pint in the pub afterwards.

## Planning Applications

The two December planning applications caused some concern in the village, particularly the application to build five bungalows in Moat Lane.

A desirable village like Aston Abbotts will always be under threat from the developers. Some proposals will be sympathetic, of value to the village and welcome—others less so.

It is useful to know what to do if you are concerned about a potential development, so this month The Chronicle carries an article on how to find out about and comment upon planning applications. You will find this article on page 13.

I'm always pleased to receive your letters on these or any other subject, so please write in to the Chronicle if you have something to say. Contact details are on the right.

*Phil*

# THE CHRONICLE

## Issue 198

## February 2001

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~o~

A note to all would be advertisers -

More than 198 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?

~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2001

Please pass items to Phil Spooner at The Birches in Wingrave Road or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible.

Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbotts, our local Doctor's Surgeries and to Wing Police House.

*In This Issue*

*In this month's Chronicle ~*

- ◆ Water!
- ◆ Doing The Fete
- ◆ Guide To Car Mechanics
- ◆ Witchcraft In Wingrave
- ◆ The Rambling Club
- ◆ Planning Applications
- ◆ Valentines Messages

*and much, much more.....*

# The Peoples Page

## Happy Birthday

Anita Parker	28th Jan
Chaya Gupta	3rd Feb
Michael Coleman	4th
Ivy Brandon	5th
Pablo Gutierrez	7th
Vikka Drysdale	7th
Andy Garton	9th
Christopher Ellis	9th
Haidee Mogford	13th
Richard Clarke	13th
Paul Hewitt	14th
Dana King	14th
Irene Lowden	18th
Trevor Hall	18th
Frank McManus	21st
Sally Dutton	22nd
Simon Gresswell	24th
Tracey Lovell	23rd
Linda Wheaton	25th
Daniel White	25th

I would like to say thank you to everyone who sent cards and flowers, called in, phoned or just took the time to stop and chat as I hobbled around the village during the past few weeks. My hip is much better and I hope to be 'back in the saddle' in the spring. It has been lovely to feel so cared for.

- Kate Curry

Congratulations to **Tony "Cublington"**

**Rees** - Astonbury and Cabaret star - upon the acquisition of his new business empire. (That'll be two large cod and a bag of chips please Tony.)

## Valentines Day

**Andy** - You are the most kind and thoughtful person I could wish to have in my life. Thank you for getting me through the last couple of months. I will always love you. **Lyn**

Those summer days in sweet light breeze  
Underneath the 'Halton trees'  
With aircraft circling way above  
Oh! How that blanket we did love

It kept us off the dampish grass  
Red wine we swallowed by glass  
But look; the winter's here so drear  
We need our blanket now my dear

But now it's job; to beat the cold  
It's b.....y awful, getting old.  
But still I love you Oh! my sweet  
Though you only want me to warm your feet

### Little Chick

Be my valentine -  
5,653 hours to go...  
love you forever  
Turkey Lurkey



Oh! 'Neat' Oh! 'Neat' come in my car  
I know that it is only plastic  
But still I'm sure, we'll get quite far  
and you'll find that the ride is fantastic.

Oh! 'Neat' Oh! 'Neat' come in my boat  
OK! So it's also in plastic.  
But come now my dear, with a waterproof coat  
Bring a fourteen pound tin of white mastic.

Oh! 'Neat' Oh! 'Neat' hear my organ resound  
Well, I know that it's largely of plastic  
I'll write a love song, next time you come round  
Just to prove that I'm really scholastic.

Oh! 'Neat' Oh! 'Neat' come, share my true love  
I assure you it's not made of plastic.  
You know that you are, my own 'turtle dove'  
and your cooking makes me feel romantic.

*The sensitive one!*

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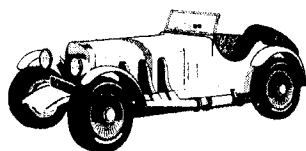
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# In The Village - 1

## Water!

Like many others, I wasn't too happy at the prospect of our water pipes being renewed, fearing there would be much inconvenience. OK! There has been some but a chance comment overheard from one of our schoolboys extolling the virtues of not having to wash because there was no water in their house, caused me to take a rather more positive view.

The first huge advantage was that the traffic both reduced and slowed down. Furthermore, those idiots who drive through each morning using their mobile phones have had their work cut out avoiding all the obstacles and had to keep both hands on the wheel. Of course both pubs have benefited from the sale of ale and snacks and no doubt their business is currently standing at record weekday levels. Is it just me or has the strength of the beer improved since the water has been cut off?? Even Bernard has had to 'restock' at the cash & carry almost each day and the fear of losing trade has caused him to cut down his lunch hour to a 'bare hour'.

Certainly, several of the ladies in the village seem to have rather enjoyed having the workmen around and taken great delight in supplying tea with much fluttering of eyelids. 'The old boys' have absolutely revelled in there being more activity during the daytime than they usually see in a year and have thoroughly enjoyed peering down muddy holes, advising the workmen on the best way to do the job and gazed in awe at the impressive machinery; recalling how in their day they would have completed the job in half the time, using just a spade.

The colourful barriers, safety jackets and sky blue pipes have certainly brightened up the village which at this time of year tends to be rather drab in any event. I for one am secretly pleased that the workmen have hit a snag and are likely to be with us a little longer.



## PUBLIC MEETING

All users of the Aston Abbots Church Room and any other interested villagers are invited to attend a public meeting to share ideas and discuss the way forward for the improvements.

**TUESDAY 6TH FEB**

**8 PM**

**THE CHURCH ROOM**

Please attend if you have any interest in the Church Room

## Planning Applications Refused

The two recent planning applications—for five bungalows in Moat Lane and four houses next to New Zealand Cottages—have both been refused... this time.

## Chronicle Distributors

On these cold wet days, and even colder dark evenings, our thoughts go out to all our distributors who trudge around the village delivering the Chronicle each month. To them, a very big thank you. They are:-

Margaret Kent, Carol Spooner, Freddie & Irene, Andy Ford, Chris Fox, Adrian & Vanessa, Ivan Greenaway, Caroline Lane and Andi Swain

Please note that every attempt is made to distribute the Chronicle during the first weekend of the month. However, since it is printed at Waddesden School, school holidays occasionally thwart our best endeavours.



## Witchcraft in Wingrave!

Before all you Astonians start throwing deeply suspicious glances in the direction of our Wingravian cousins, I should hastily point out that the witchcraft in question took place over 200 years ago. The Wingrave witchcraft case is one of many such incidents in Beds and Bucks documented in a new book by John Houghton

Reverend William Wooley, known as the Witch-hunter of Wingrave, persecuted Susana Hoakes, an old woman who had been accused of bewitching a neighbour's spinning wheel.

The woman was stripped naked and brought before Wooley to undergo trial by ordeal. Wooley weighed the woman against the church Bible and, as she was heavier, found her to be innocent.

The book by John Houghton is called "Sanctity and Scandal in Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire". Published by The Book Castle, Dunstable, it should be available from all good booksellers.

*Ed*

## Bogus Water Officials

The most common type of distraction burglary is carried out by conmen posing as water board officials to gain entrance to a property. There was a spate of such burglaries in Leighton Buzzard and Beds over the Christmas period.

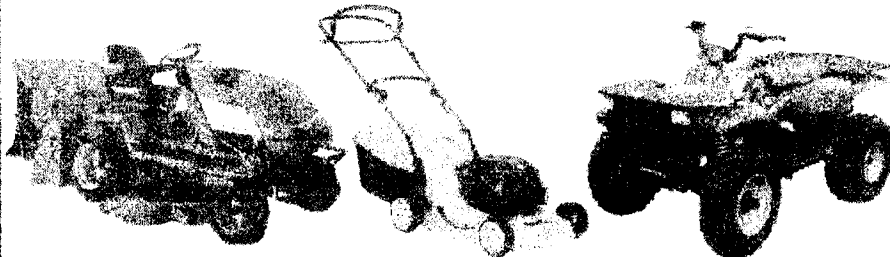
Over the past few weeks we have become accustomed to having people working on the water pipes around the village. As these genuine water workers leave us, be sure to carefully check the credentials of any "water board official" asking for access to your property. Please be especially careful in the immediate post pipe-laying period, as it is not beyond possibility that thieves could try to exploit our relaxed attitude to having the water workers around.

*Ed*

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# In The Village - 2

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor

Re: The Chronicle issue 197

Following Colin's short history of the Church at Quarrendon I thought the following might be of interest.

Without doubt stones from Quarrendon were brought to Lower Burston Farm for general building use, stack bases and foundations. There is considerable evidence of this. A carved angel is built into the structure of the house and several carved stones are about down there, some of which were obviously parts of pillars.

Similarly, until after the war there was a stone built bungalow on Lines Hill which was last occupied by Michael and Rena Coleman. When Michael and Rena moved into their present home Major Morton had the bungalow demolished. Some of these stones are still in a heap behind the Abbey. Of these, quite a few are carved and, in my opinion, show signs of coming from Quarrendon Church many years ago.

Yours sincerely

Peter Knight. 59 The Green

*Thank you for this fascinating additional information following up on Colin's article ~ Ed*

Dear Editor

Many congratulations on your first edition with its refreshing new look - keep up the good work, as always.

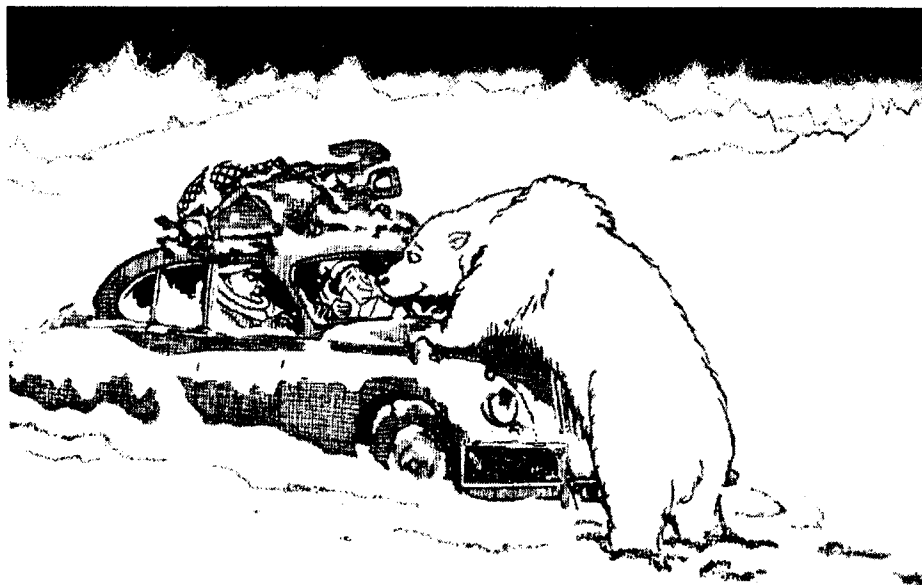
Would it be possible to include a small photograph of the village interviewee? I'm sure newcomers to the village would appreciate being able to put a face to a name, as would those who don't frequent the pubs (like myself) and therefore don't know many of those regularly mentioned.

Yours sincerely

Sondra Dickason. No 1 Abbey Cottages

*Thank you for your kind letter. A photo of the interviewee is an excellent idea. Unfortunately photographs do not reproduce well, due to the printing process we use. However, I am experimenting with the occasional picture and I will endeavour to include one of the interviewee in the future.*

*PS. Sorry that there is no interview this month—Hopefully it should return in the March issue ~ Ed*



*Look Dedre! I don't care what the map 'says' - This doesn't look like the Cublington road to me!!*

## Rambling Club

We are a small group who meet every 3rd Sunday for an approximately 3-5 mile walk starting from different venues, led by one of the committee and sometimes finishing at a tea stop

We also hold social evenings, trips and usually once a year, invite other rambling groups to join us in our 'Spider walk' (and no you don't have to collect them!)

Each group taking part are asked to use a different footpath leading to Aston Abbots (a crafty way to get our footpaths walked). The walk ends at Aston Abbots (the body of the spider) where teas are served. We have had 110 walkers so look out for the date and come along and join us. A New Year's party is kindly hosted by our Treasurer in her lovely home at Great Brickhill so there is plenty of activity.

The next walk is on the Sunday the 11th Feb. commencing 2.00 pm and will start from Woburn town car park (at the rear of The Bedford Arms). It's a popular walk crossing Woburn Park and all readers of The Chronicle are very welcome to join us. If you would like more information then please give Mrs Bobbie Ward a ring on 01296 681982.

*Colin Higgs*

## Slide Show

At January's Tuesday evening floral class, held in the Church Room, our local naturalists Victor and Christine Scott gave a slide show of bulbs and flowers from around the world, including Spain, Portugal, Iran and the Middle East.

The flowers included bluebells, crocus, iris, snowflake, tulips, daffodils and gladioli. Some were wild and others common garden species.

Winners in the raffle were: Mrs M Kent, Mrs Dickens and Mrs Loader.

*Colin Higgs*

## Hammy

*A recent letter to the Times newspaper, spotted by Nigel Palmer*

Sir, I am eating a sandwich labelled "reformed ham". Whatever the ham had done wrong, one presumes that it is now cured.

# Photographs

by Paul Ridgley

A photograph captures a moment in time and can communicate directly with our imagination and emotions to bring back a myriad of memories.

When photographing people my objective is to help them feel relaxed and look 'real' - and preferably in familiar surroundings which say something about their personality.

But whatever the subject the photograph should be imaginative, crisp and, of course, special.

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## Doing the Fete

We still urgently need a fete coordinator this year: Phil has asked if I would try to explain what is involved, in the hope that this might prompt you to feel that this is a job that you could do.

There is no job description and there is no fixed way that the fete has to be run. This description is really of the way it has tended to be done over the past few years.

The first thing that I and others have usually done is to call together those who have worked on the fete committee before, and who are willing to do so again. We discuss what was right or wrong about the previous year, what suggestions have been made for changes, who is willing to take on the big jobs for the year (see below), and what early jobs need to be done. Mostly at this stage this means, once the exact date has been fixed, booking entertainment and someone to open proceedings. Many entertainers come to the fete on a regular basis, and we keep all contact details in a file that is regularly updated.

One of the pleasures in doing the fete last year was that we had volunteers for doing all the big tasks right from the beginning. These really are the raffle; teas; organizing the village collection in

the week before the fete; publicity, posters and signs; getting people to do stalls; setting up and taking down on the day itself. Because of changed circumstances I suspect that organizing parking should now be added to this list. Once people know they have responsibility for an area, as far as possible, the coordinator should just sit back. We have usually had monthly meetings to make sure that everything is happening that ought to be happening, and that no major snags have cropped up.

I hope this explains why I refer to 'a fete coordinator': a lot of the time, it is a question of making sure that all the various bits are coming together, rather than trying to actually do them yourself. As the actual day approaches, however, there is inevitably more to do - exactly what depends how the various jobs have been divided up in the first place - but someone has to be available to take responsibility for things that have been forgotten (and there's always something), for deciding who's going to go where and so on. On fete day itself, you are busy (there's a surprise): there are a lot of people to be met, told where to go (as it were) and what to do, thanked etc - and the first drink of the evening is very welcome.

You should not think then that this is a job that you are just left to get on with by yourself: the fete is becoming quite a big event, and certainly too big for one person to run. You get lots of help, some from people who can give an hour or two on the day, and some from people who give huge amounts of time in preparation, particularly in the final two weeks. Last year we had more people helping in different ways than I have seen before. At least two previous coordinators, including me, will be happy to be on the committee this year.

So what's it all for? Two things. The first is that this is a highly enjoyable day that brings together lots of people from the village; it's the one big village day out of the year. The second is that we all need the money that is raised - for the Church Room, for The Chronicle, for the Church, for the Toddlers, for the Recreation Ground, for Aston Abbots History - basically for anyone who comes along to the Annual Parish Meeting and makes a decent case: last year we made just over £2500.

Please think about giving this a go. If you want to talk about it please call me on 681373.

*Gordon Smith*

## The Aston Abbots Guide to Car Mechanics

You know how it is. Those simple little jobs always turn out to be rather more complicated than you first anticipated. Take my little problem with the Renault Clio the other day for example. The wing mirror had obviously come off worse for wear in some parking manoeuvre and wouldn't clip back into position. Consequently the driver had a very good view of the passenger side door but had great difficulty in locating nearby cars.

As always with cars it seemed that the obvious solution was to replace it (the wing mirror, not the car). So Sally went down to the nearest Renault dealer to locate one. Yes, they had one in stock (now that was a surprise) and it only cost £55.61...plus VAT. Her shock at the cost was so theatrically performed (a part in the next cabaret beckons) that, when she asked if it was possible to get one cheaper, the man at the spare parts service counter took pity on her. "If you go to 'Topmark Renault' on the Airfield Industrial Estate in Long Marston, they may be able to locate one for you," he

said.

A visit to Long Marston duly took place. Sally drove down what can at best be described as a track and came across a pile of wrecked cars. On alighting from her vehicle she was confronted by two large vicious Alsatian dogs, which were sensing that dinner had arrived. However a stern call of "Down Turbo" (yes, honest) brought them to heel. A Clio of suitable age was located and its wing mirror, after some considerable effort, removed. It was well worth it as it only cost £25.

On Sunday afternoon, I was presented with the mirror and instructed to fit it. I removed the trim to expose the fixing screws. But my Philips screwdriver was no use and I didn't seem to have the correct size Allen Key. Not to be defeated I went to see Andy Bystra. If any one in Aston Abbots had the correct tool it must be Andy. We sorted through two boxes of Allen Keys, carefully measured them and decided that the best fit was the same size as the one I already had and that didn't work. A visit to

Halfords loomed, well at least they were still open.

I searched through socket sets and screwdrivers and my eyes alighted on a strange looking type of screwdriver that I had never seen before. The 'Stardriver' and sure enough it seemed to fit the rather odd screw I had brought with me. So I purchased the cheapest one I could find at the cost of £2.99. I drove home and removed the three fixing screws with my 'Stardriver' to reveal three recessed bolts. But I was on a winner now. My smallest socket set bit (10mm) fitted perfectly so I had the old mirror removed and the new one fitted in a jiffy.

Not one to throw away things that could come in useful, I decided to try to remove the mirror glass from the broken fitting. This proved to be quite difficult and, as I struggled with it, there was a sudden snap and the mirror clipped back to its usual position! .....So, if anyone needs a new left hand wing mirror for a Renault Clio, vintage '95-'98, going cheap, they know where to come.

*Nigel Palmer*

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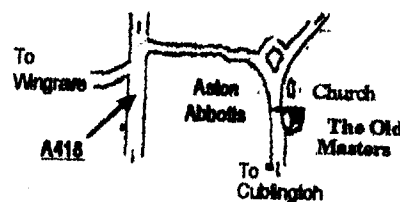
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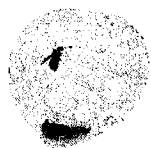
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## Saturdays At The Royal College Of Music

In last month's *Chronicle* we congratulated Anthony Palmer on winning a place at Trinity Music College in London. This is a great achievement for Anthony and, as his mother Sally now tells, it required hard work.

For six years Anthony has attended The Junior Department of the Royal College of Music in South Kensington, London. A friend suggested that now he could drive I would be spared my weekly trip to take him there. This comment made me realise that she had no idea what was involved in being a student there. I therefore decided to write some articles about the Department that I hope you will find of interest.

Our day starts at 7.30 am when we set off in the car for London. This is by far the quickest and easiest way to do the journey (have you tried taking a cello on the underground?), but means I have to go too.

Anthony, like all students, has an individual timetable. His current Saturday schedule is as follows:

9-9.30 am	Individual tuition in Percussion
9.30-10am	Alexander Technique
10.15-11am	Individual tuition in Piano
11.30-1.15pm	Symphony Orchestra rehearsal
2-3pm	Chamber music group (4 players and teacher)
3-4pm	Music Theory
4-5pm	Individual tuition on Cello

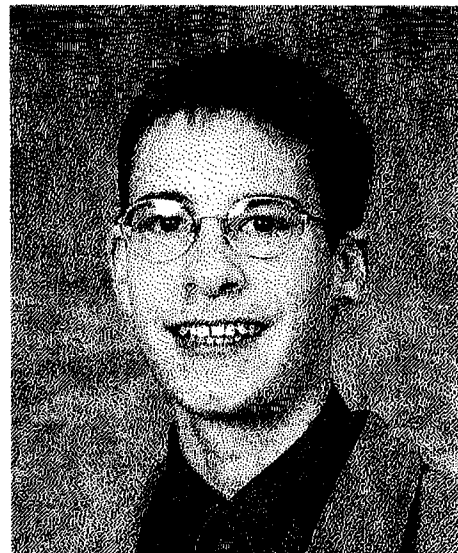
As you can see several lessons are back to back which necessitates quickly packing up and moving to another room. There

are few breaks and all lessons are one to one or in small groups so students have to be alert all the time. Most students learn two instruments, of which one must be piano. Anthony recently persuaded the Director to let him learn percussion thus making his timetable even more crowded.

Despite this level of activity the College is generally orderly and calm with students moving without supervision from lesson to lesson. Until the 1970s the fire bell was rung every hour to signify lesson changes but since the move to timetables based on 15 minute chunks that has stopped, thank goodness.

The Junior Department has a number of different Orchestras and larger ensembles and almost all students play in at least one of these. Anthony is presently in the Symphony Orchestra. Every week each Orchestra practises for 1 to 2 hours in the Concert Hall on a programme, which is performed at a free end of term concert. The orchestras have teachers for each section e.g. wind or violins, that attend all practices and take their section for special rehearsals several times during the term. There are 4 choirs and students having space in their timetables are allocated choir places as far as possible. Most orchestral players also play in a small chamber group with weekly tuition.

Like all students Anthony was selected by audition for a place and has had to undergo an annual assessment each year in February. This involves playing all the instruments studied at College to the Director and a visiting specialist in his main instrument (cello). Evidence of progress and commitment appear the necessary criteria to survive these assessments. Fortunately, as it is his last year he is spared this annual ordeal. The



*Anthony Palmer*

students range in age from 7 to 18 and are a very mixed and interesting group of people. Some are gifted musicians, but most just enjoy music enough to give up their Saturdays to attend College.

So what of us parents, well there is of course the shopping, Oxford Street is not far away. A rich diet of competitions, concerts and rehearsals to listen to and some of the country's best Museums to visit. I swim at Imperial College's pool most weeks and often walk in the Park. I am now Secretary of the Friends of the Junior Department, which raises funds for the Department. In this connection I help run a stationary shop for students. There are many other parents who I have got to know over the years and chat to during the day.

So this is how we have spent 30 Saturdays a year for six years. While often tedious and tiring I think we will both miss it next year.

*Sally Palmer*

## Interesting Villages

### Brill

Superb panoramic views across the Vale of Aylesbury and Oxfordshire. Interesting windmill on the Common. All Saints Church retains 12<sup>th</sup> century origins, a 15<sup>th</sup> century tower and 17<sup>th</sup> century roof. Also the terminus of the Brill Wootton tramway built by the Duke of Buckingham to connect his estate to Quainton for connections to Aylesbury - London.

### Chetwode (Nth of Buckingham)

Site of an Augustine Priory founded in

1245. St Nicholas church has fine stained glass windows, interesting pews including a family pew with a fireplace! The village is also a good walking area (to Blissett - Wesbury etc.)

### Haddenham

Interestingly named streets such as;- Dragons Tail, Duck Lane, Townside and Fort End. Many of the buildings including St Mary's church are of interest with examples of Wychert walls, and one, the 'Bone House' decorated with the knuckle bones of sheep!

### Long Crendon

Once an important place for needle making with one street still called 'Needlemakers' Many prime, interesting buildings such as the Court house (once a wool store), Madges, Manor House and Long Crendon Manor.

St Mary's church has an interesting interior and a footpath from the churchyard leads to Notley Abbey (on the river Thames) a 12<sup>th</sup> century monastic Augustinian Foundation.

*Colin Higgs*

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## Planning Applications

The recent planning applications to build houses at New Zealand cottages and in Moat Lane focussed the village's attention on planning matters. We present here a brief layman's guide on how to find out information about such applications and how to make comments or objections.

This information is "as I understand it", so please seek further advice from the AVDC Planning Department if you have serious planning worries.

### The Planning Application

Most building works, changes of land or building use, and many property alterations require permission from the Aylesbury Vale District Council's Development Control Division – the Planning Department – before they can go ahead. A written application for permission is made and a fee is paid. The Council assign a Case Officer to deal with the application, which is then made available for public inspection and comment.

### Publicising Applications

A yellow A4-sized notice must be displayed at the site of the planning application for 21 days. This will be put up as soon as possible after the application is received. Copies of the application are sent to our Parish Council with a request for comments. Certain types of application – e.g. those in/ adjoining a conservation area (New Zealand Cottages) and those affecting a right of way (Moat Lane) – will be advertised in the Public Notices page of the Bucks Herald. Other applications may not be formally advertised in the papers, although both the Bucks Herald and the Leighton Buzzard Observer often carry an informal list of applications. There is no guarantee that an application will appear in these informal lists, so do not rely upon them.

If the applicant changes the application whilst it is being processed it will be re-publicised. Anyone who has written to the Planning Department about the application will be notified of the changes to the application.

### Viewing the Application

Copies of the application can be viewed at the Aylesbury Planning office (see the panel for contact details). If at all possible take the application number, but if you do not have it the staff can identify the application from their computer system. You can sit to study the application and make notes or, if you wish, they will make a copy of the application for a small fee (depends upon the application's size, but typically less than a fiver). The Planning Office staff are very helpful and they will answer questions and give advice over the phone if you cannot go into the office. They can also tell you if there is an application on a site if you suspect one exists.

Copies of the application are also sent to our Parish Council and they may be viewed at the next Parish Council meeting. However, the PC have only 21 days to reply so sometimes an extraordinary meeting will have to be convened and you may be unaware of this meeting. If you wish to view the PC copy then please contact Kate Curry our Parish Clerk on 681137 as soon as possible. Kate will let you visit her to see the PC's copy, but by prior appointment only please.

### Making Comments and Objections

It is essential to make your comments or objections in writing

### The Planning Department

The Aylesbury Planning Department is located in Exchange Street, opposite the Maxwell Pools and Gym. There is a car park next to the offices. The address and phone number is :

Development Control Division  
Exchange Street  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP20 1UB  
Telephone 01296 585425

as soon as possible. Letters should be received before the deadline specified by the planning department, which is normally 21 days from the date the site notice was posted. Make sure your letter makes it clear which application you are objecting to—include the application reference number if at all possible.

Your comments will be placed in the case file and will become a public record. It is not possible to make anonymous comments and any letters or communications marked confidential will not be taken into account during the decision process.

Valid reasons for objecting to an application depend upon the exact circumstances, but may include:

- ♦ Design, appearance and layout of the proposal
- ♦ The conservation of buildings, trees and open land
- ♦ Any impact on the appearance of the area
- ♦ The effect on the level of daylight and privacy
- ♦ Noise disturbance and smells
- ♦ Highway Safety and Traffic – e.g. safe access
- ♦ The need to safeguard the countryside
- ♦ Structure Plan and Local Plan\* policy
- ♦ Case Law and previous decisions
- ♦ Government guidance

\*In Aston Abbots the Local Plan seeks to restrict the impact of any development and preserve the village as much as possible. The Parish Council has a copy of this plan should you wish to see it.

Other reasons for objection may also be considered, but the following issues will not normally be taken into account :

- ♦ Private property rights
- ♦ Loss of a private view
- ♦ Inconvenience or other problems caused by building
- ♦ Possible future development
- ♦ Any effect on the value of the property
- ♦ The developer's morals, motives or past record
- ♦ The fact that development has started
- ♦ Trade objections (from a competitor, for example)
- ♦ Moral objections

(Continued on page 15)

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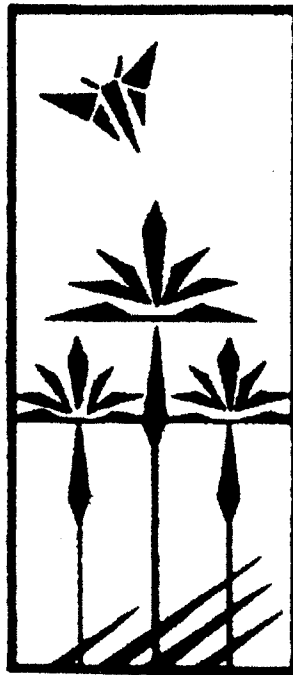
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residents

## The Ladies Club

### Programme of Events—2001

February 8	Mrs B Lagas "Egypt"
February 22	Mrs S Allaby "Family History"
March 8	Spring Lunch
March 22	Mr C Atkins "The Flower Islands"
April 5th	Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy, Venue to be arranged
April 19th	Mrs L Gasper "Belly Dancing"
May 3rd	Mrs M Wildunan "Peru"
May 17th	Mr G Gurney "R.N.L.I."
May 31st	Miss L Kelly "British Waterways"
June 14th	Club Outing
June 28th	Competitions
July 12th	Garden Party.

The Ladies Club meets every other Thursday in The Church Room at 2.15 pm. New members and visitors are always welcome. If you would like more information on the Ladies Club please phone Shirley Ford on 681865.

*(Continued from page 13)*

If you do not wish to make a personal comment or objection to the application you can make your views known at the Parish Council meeting when it is discussed. However, a significant number of individual objections probably carry more weight than a single objection from the PC. You can, of course, do both.

The Case Officer will make a site visit, but you are not allowed to make verbal comments to him during this visit.

### The Decision

AVDC must take into account the policies of Buckinghamshire County Structure Plan, the Rural Areas Local Plan, government planning advice, previous planning decisions and technical advice. Opinion, objections and comments from the public are all also important.

AVDC try to make planning decisions within 8 weeks of the application, assuming there are no difficulties. Objections must be made within the 21 day statutory period during which the yellow planning notice is displayed, so do not delay – act immediately.

Council case officers decide many applications, but controversial proposals are decided by the Development Control Committee, who sit in public. Members of the public are allowed to address this committee on the first occasion a planning application is considered. The recent applications in Aston Abbots are outline proposals and will probably be decided by a case officer.

People who made written comments should be informed of the decision.

### Further information

This has been just a brief layman's overview of how to comment upon planning applications. If you want more detailed information a number of leaflets are available from the Planning Office. The information here is believed to be correct, but seek professional advice if necessary.

*Ed*

## 1st Wingrave Scout Group

### Cubs

The end of last year saw us Investing three new Cubs all of whom joined us from Beavers. They are Thomas Ellis, Harry Pickering and Jack Whitehouse, we welcome them to the Cubs.

We spent much of December working on First Aid a very useful skill for life, as a result of their work all those Cubs who attended each session were rewarded with their First Aid badge (almost every Cub).

We finished the year with a Christmas Disco, we invited all the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides to make more of a party. Sadly few Scouts and Guides came along to what was a thoroughly good evening, much enjoyed by those who joined in.

We have a full programme for the new year with a number of visits planned and some interesting people to visit us. Our first meeting was a games evening interspaced with trips outside to view the lunar eclipse. This is a useful taster for later meetings!

### Communiqué for Beavers

The Beavers are back after the Christmas break and enjoying meetings around a theme of books. Everything from Thomas the Tank Engine to Harry Potter and from printing to libraries is up for discussion!

We have welcomed Corey McMahon and Peter Alexander to the Colony through their investiture ceremonies and are delighted to have welcomed several new boys at the beginning of January which means that we are currently full. If you have any queries or would like to register for the waiting list then please contact Sue Ascott (681878) or Jan Antiesowicz (681430)

*Julia Ellis*

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From Monday 29th January to Sunday 8th April 2001 shoppers will receive one voucher for every £10 spent in a single transaction at any Tesco store or petrol filling station\*. This year Coca Cola, Homepride, Juice Up and Ski are supporting the scheme, and will be offering great promotions in the store as well as extra Computers for Schools vouchers on certain products.

Our Target for 2001 is 15,000 vouchers and we are hoping to obtain Printers and Ink cartridges.

Wingrave School would be delighted if you, your family and friends could help us meet our target. Please drop your vouchers at the School Office, in the box provided at Wingrave Village Shop or at 20 The Green in Aston Abbots.

\*Tesco Computers for Schools vouchers will not be offered on purchases from concessions, medicines, National Lottery tickets, or for purchases from the tobacco kiosk, coffee shop, restaurant or pharmacy.

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*Pasta with Mushrooms, Cashew Nuts, Cream and Parmesan Cheese*

OR

*Curried Parsnip Soup*

~~~~~

*Home Made Sorbet*

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*Tournedo Mexicaine*

*fillet steak cooked to your preference with onions, garlic, chillies,  
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OR

*Hunter's Pheasant*

*supreme braised in red wine with onions, garlic, bacon,  
juniper berries, chestnuts and fresh thyme*

OR

*Fillet of Plaice*

*grilled served with a prawns, dill, cucumber and white wine sauce*

OR

*Pork Normandy*

*loin sautéed and served with a cider, apple, peppers and mustard sauce*

OR

*Pancake filled with fresh spinach and pine nuts served with a béchamel and nutmeg sauce*

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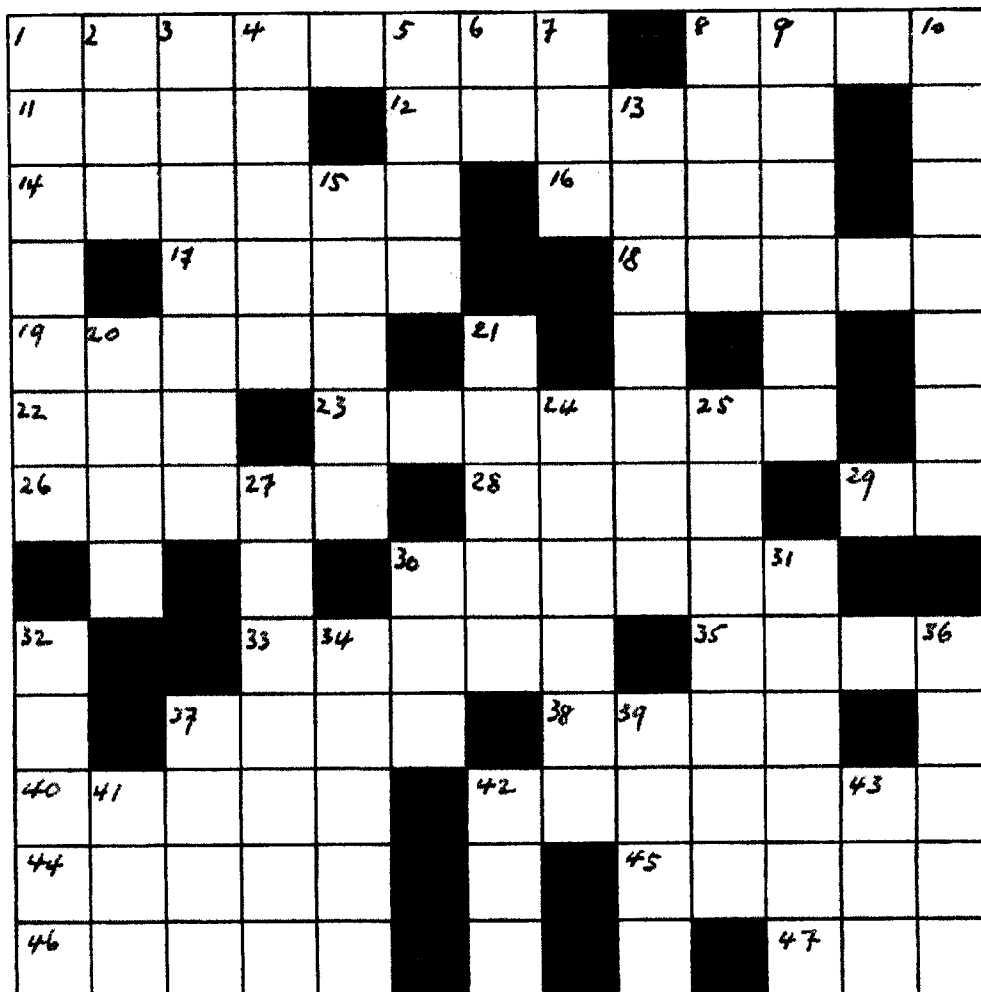
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# The Chronicle Crossword

February 2001



## Answers to January

Across: 1. High Wycombe. 10 Kano. 11 Odour. 12 Emir. 13 Land. 14 LSD. 15 Teal. 17 Title. 18 Bet. 20 Realty. 23 Nye. 25 Enter. 26 Easy. 29 Lie. 30 Aim. 33 Like. 34 Action. 37 Did. 38 Ambit. 40 Nails. 42 Rails. 43 Etna. 44 We. 46 Endow. 48 Surprise. 49 Done.  
 Down: 1 Ham. 2 Initiate. 3 Gore. 4 Wall. 5 Content. 6 Oddity. 7 Mo. 8 Bulls. 9 Erse. 10 Kestrel. 16. Attracts. 19 Bayed. 21 Enigma. 22 Le. 24 Eel. 27 Aids. 28 Ski. 31 It. 32 Miners. 34 Ail. 35 Oat. 36 Nine. 38 Arms. 39 Bier. 41 Land. 44 Won. 45 Ewe. 47 Do.

### ACROSS. 1. Local town (8)

- 8. Long rods; blocks (4)
- 11. COIN (anag 4)
- 12. OR CITE (anag 6)
- 14 Middle (6)
- 16. A writing tool (4)
- 17. Set of players (4)
- 18. Ethical (5)
- 19. Office worker (5)
- 22. Boy's name (3)
- 23. A SENDER (7)
- 26. Finished (5)
- 28. A pit (4)
- 29. For example (2)
- 30. Chewing; Using 33 acr.(6)

### 33.. The dentist attends to these (5)

- 35. Mountain lake (4)
  - 37. Boast (4)
  - 38. REIN (anag 4)
  - 40. BLARE (anag 5)
  - 42. More imposing (7)
  - 44. Normal, common (5)
  - 45. Representative (5)
  - 46. Filthy, (5)
  - 47. Hur- - - (3)
- DOWN: 1. Two wheeled vehicle (7)
- 2. - - - cream (3)
  - 3. To compete, strive (7)

### 4. Come in (5)

- 5. To pour down (4)
- 6. Royal letters (2)
- 7. To steal (3)
- 8. Same as 16 acr. (4)
- 9. AS CORN (6)
- 10. To go yachting (7)
- 13. Kettledrums (7)
- 15. Smoothed soil (5)
- 20. Loaned (4)
- 21. To allow access (5)
- 24. One or the other (6)
- 25. Leasing (7)
- 27 To plead (7)
- 30. Plead for money (3)

### 31. Male goose (6)

- 32. DUB IN (anag 2&3)
- 34. Ahead of due time (5)
- 36. - - - - Pole (5)
- 37. Make less distinct, smear smudge (4)
- 39 Royal Australian Air Force (abbrev. 4)
- 41. Air Speed Indicator (abbrev 3)
- 42. Alcohol (3)
- 43. Girl's name (3)

Editor's Note: This months crossword was nearly eaten by one of our dogs, who attacked it as Don Bellingham pushed it through our letterbox. Not the first time this problem has occurred, so we are taking action to keep the little blighter away from our letterbox in future (the dog that is—not Don Bellingham).

NO JOB TOO SMALL

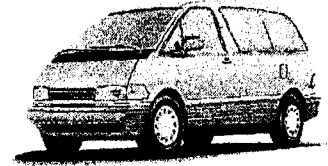
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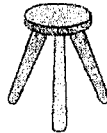


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# Aston Abbotts Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Aston Abbotts Parish Council met at 8pm on Wednesday 24th January. The minutes were read and signed and there were no matters arising.

Peter Cooper, our District Councillor, gave an update on the modernisation process which is taking place in the Council, and which comes into effect from 1st May this year. He also confirmed that the local boundary changes are in place – this means that Mentmore is now included in our ward. On being questioned about the lack of refuse collections over the Christmas period he agreed that it was a ‘fiasco’ which should not have happened.

## Planning

The application to build five bungalows on land in Moat Lane and the application for four houses off Wingrave road have both been refused.

## Highways

A request for an extra streetlight in Wingrave Road was

discussed. It was decided not to proceed at present because of the high cost of the project. The Council will discuss streetlighting in more detail later in the year, so that any new lights can be budgeted for when setting the precept for 2002.

## Recreation Ground

Quotes for mowing the grass on the Rec. were discussed. The children’s play area is now being regularly checked for safety by members of the P.C.

The Accounts were approved and correspondence circulated. A report on the recent Highways meeting was given. It was agreed to apply to host another ‘Music in Quiet Places’ concert following the success of last year’s concert. The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Next meeting is on WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY at 8pm in the church room - everyone is welcome to come along.

*Kate Curry, Parish Clerk*

## Rector’s Report

One of the most unexpected letters that I received in the last few weeks was an invitation to a pre-retirement Course being run by the Diocese.

In a way it was quite scary - because it reminded me that maybe the time had come to start making some preparations - even though I am not due to retire for several years yet.

I think I have worked out the reasoning behind the invitation. From the information given, it seems that the chief purpose of the Course is to think about personal finances. The need to find somewhere affordable to live and to have something on which to live. Having lived in tied accommodation and received a relatively small salary for the whole of my working life, there has been little opportunity to build up much by way of savings.

Retirement inevitably means living within a reduced budget, and being aware that there are various State and other Benefits that are available.

The man at the bank tried to tell me recently that I was very fortunate to expect to receive a “final-salary” pension. But he didn’t seem to realise that although that pension would be increased to cover inflation - if it is a fraction of something small, it is never going to be very large. His concern was that I should buy one of his Savings plans rather than investing what savings I had in another Bank’s Savings plan.

No matter how much money they have there are some people who never seem to be able to be happy. We live in a world that has forgotten what it means to be content. Being content means to gratefully accept what you have - whether that is a great deal or not very much - without constantly seeking more. True riches are not measured by the size of the bank balance.

Learning to make the best use of the available resources is something that needs to be learnt long before we reach retirement age - and I am frequently appalled at the wastefulness of our present day world. But I am sure that the pre-retirement Course is not just about managing money and resources. I suspect that it must also contain reminders that the time is approaching when energy and enthusiasm will not be as focused as in earlier years. A reminder that there is value in stopping doing things. There was a village I knew in which all the key roles were held by people who were in their eighties. They had held these key roles for so long and had made sure that “while there is breath in my body” nobody else was going to do them. The trouble was that even when they had all died, nobody was prepared to take over their jobs. Having clung on to power for too long they had not allowed themselves time to enjoy sitting and watching others struggle with the increasing complexities of life.

For the next few years though, I shall carry on working for the Church, the Kingdom and the Community!

*~Bob Willmott*

## Around The Vale

- Vale farmers are having to struggle with soggy fields that are too water-logged to cultivate. Roger Davis of Corner Farm in Bierton says it is the wettest winter he can remember in 40 years.
- Bucks had the worst drink-drive figures in the country over the Christmas period, with one in four of those breathalysed being over the limit. It later emerged that one Aylesbury 18 year-old offender had no driving license.
- Leighton Buzzard butcher Owen Gurney is shutting up shop in protest at the increased regulation and red tape his industry faces.
- Wing carnival will take place on July 14th, with the procession starting at 1.30 from the top of Moorlands and proceeding to the recreation ground.
- AVDC have received a planning application for re-building and extension to Wing village hall, at an estimated cost of £350,000. If planning permission is granted the registered charity trust that runs the hall will pay for it by lettings and renting Charlotte Cottage to Thames Valley Police.

# THE CHRONICLE

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Longmoor Farm ~ 681010

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

**TOM MANNING**  
5, Little Mollards, Twelve Leys, Wingrave ~ 682455

**GWEN KEMPSTER**  
53 The Green ~ 681310

**MARGARET KENT**  
6 The Green ~ 681454

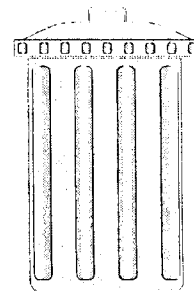
**LINDA SUTTON**  
Sadlers Farm ~ 681413

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

County Councillor  
**BRENDA JENNINGS**  
25, The Green, Soulbury ~ 01525 270610

## LOCAL RECYCLING

**Collection point is available at  
The Bull & Butcher, Aston Abbotts**



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

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

**AVDC PROVIDES PAPER AND TIN/PLASTIC  
RECYCLING BASKETS WHICH ARE  
COLLECTED FORTNIGHTLY FROM YOUR  
HOUSE -**

**PLEASE USE THEM!**



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- **Feature** your property on the World Wide Web at <http://www.mcconville-bowden.co.uk>
- **We are open** seven days a week and offer advertising through various newspapers in up to 350,000 households per week.
- **We are committed** to getting the best price for your home and to offer homes to buyers from far and wide.

**So contact your local agent for a free valuation, or better still **INSTRUCT US TODAY !****

**44 High Street North, Stewkley, Bucks.**

**Tel: 01525 240055**

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# What's On in February

- Thursday 1st** Bingo in The Church Room 7.30 pm  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00
- Tuesday 6th** Church Room meeting. Church Room at 8 pm
- Thursday 8th** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00
- Friday 9th** Rambling Club Member's Quiz Night Church Room 7.30 pm.
- Sunday 11th** Rambling Club members meet at Woburn Town car park 2.00 pm  
(Everyone welcome - just turn up)
- Tuesday 13th** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm  
Also;- Floral class Church Room 7.00 pm.
- Sunday 18th** Concert in St James Church by the Wingrave Singers 3.00 pm. -  
Tickets £2.00 each from Shirley Ford or Colin.
- Tuesday 20th** Rambling Club AGM. 13 Moorlands Rd. Wing 8.00 pm.
- Thursday 22nd** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30 pm  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00
- Tuesday 27th** Pancake day!! Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
- Wed 28th** Parish Council Meeting in the Church Room. Anybody is welcome.  
8 pm.
- Thur 1st Mar** Bingo Church Room 7.30 pm.  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00

## Book These Dates

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** Church Cheese & Wine/Quiz Evening

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June** Open Garden's Day.

**Saturday & Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> July**  
Festival Weekend - The Fete.

## WEA Classes

Several people have asked if we could have Workers Education Association classes at Aston Abbots. If you would be interested please let Colin Higgs (681343) know so we will be able to start them in the Autumn. - Likely subjects would be;- Wildlife in Bucks, Historic houses of the Vale, History of Aston Abbots

## New Cinema & Aqua Centre in Aylesbury

If it was possible to have a Friday/Saturday late evening bus to enable everyone to attend this new venue, would you use it? Any feedback to the Chronicle please.

## Classified Ads

**WANTED casual waiting staff** mostly weekends. Aged 17+, own transport an advantage. Please ring Old Masters on 01296 681432 for further details.

**Wanted Kitchen Assistant** for Wednesday, Thursday and Saturdays. Own transport essential. Please ring Old Masters on 01296 681432 for further details.

**For Sale IKEA Krister computer table** brand new £30. Unwanted gift. 01296 681432

**Ninna Nanna 3-in-1 pram/carrycot/pushchair.** Little known, but nevertheless high quality brand, in very good condition. Navy frame, patchwork pattern, includes bag, basket, cozzytoes and rain cover for pushchair. Cost £200+ bargain at £50, must be seen. Call Sondra 01296 682249.

**JAGUAR 95M XJ6 4.0 Litre Sport,** Manual, FJSH. Turquoise Very High Spec 68K. This car has been lovingly cared for by sole owner. Would consider selling it with its own reserved plate M40 JAG. £9,000 without plate—Final reduction! If you are interested please ring John on 681349 for more details.

**FREE CLASSIFIED ADS.** Ads should be 50 words or less. Either email ads to The Chronicle or write them clearly on a piece of paper and drop them into The Birches in Wingrave Road.

## The Mobile Library Service

The Mobile Library visits the village on alternate Tuesdays. The dates are always shown in the Chronicle 'What's On' section but here are a reminder of the times:-

The Green, Aston Abbots	10.25am - 10.55am
Wingrave Road, Aston Abbots	11.00am - 11.15am
Oxley Farm	12.55pm - 1.10pm

For further information or enquiries, contact Buckingham Library on 01280 813229

*Please use the service or we will lose the facility!*

## Village Skip Service

As reported in December's Chronicle, AVDC have decided to discontinue the village skip scheme as the waste deposited into unmanned skips cannot be controlled.

The Council has, however, looked at a number of options and is now able to offer two services. The first is the collection of bulky waste from individual households for a charge of £20.00. Secondly, the Council will provide a Refuse Freighter, to the site previously used for the skip (The Bull and Butcher) on the basis of half a day per visit. In this way you could deposit items of bulky waste into the vehicle, which would be operated by the driver, who would also control what waste is deposited.

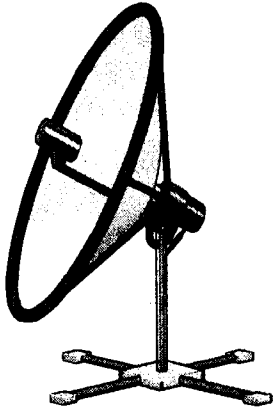
The Freighter will be at the Bull and Butcher as follows:

Monday 14th May 2001 from 12.00 to 16.00

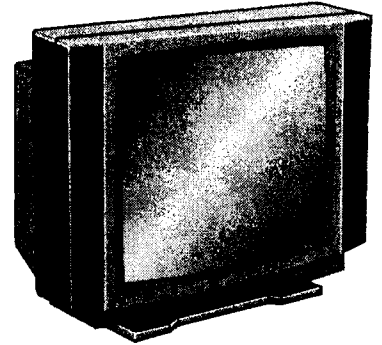
Monday 19th November 2001 from 12.00 to 16.00

# FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

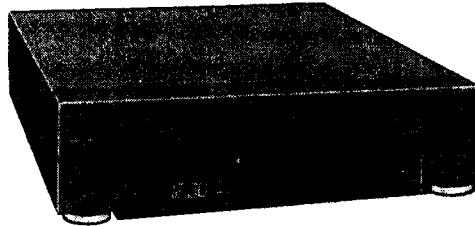


T.V. VIDEO AND  
SATELLITE  
SERVICING AND  
GENERAL REPAIR



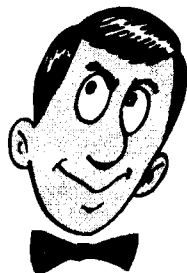
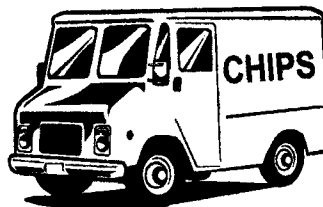
RENTALS, NEW  
AND USED SALES

MOST MAKES  
REPAIRED  
THE SAME  
DAY



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ABBOTTS

PHONE DAVE LEWIS  
ON 01296 682126



FRIENDLY  
SERVICE

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The Aston Abbots  
Music Maestro