

# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 203 ~ JULY/AUGUST 2001

**FETE 2001**  
SATURDAY JULY 21ST - SEE PAGE 14

**ASTONBURY**  
SATURDAY JULY 7TH - SEE PAGE 4

**PROMISE AUCTION**  
SUNDAY OCTOBER 7TH - SEE PAGE 21

**WIN £200!**  
& MANY OTHER PRIZES - SEE PAGE 17

Email us at ~ [editor@aston-abbotts-chronicle.co.uk](mailto:editor@aston-abbotts-chronicle.co.uk)

# Editorial

## There's Lots Happening!

There are always lots of things happening in Aston Abbots, but we have two of the biggest events of the year in July and another planned for October.

Astonbury is first—on the 7th of July. Musical maestro Neil Chesher and his team have been working hard to prepare a great show for you. Last year's event was a memorable evening, enjoyed by everybody who went. Details are on page 4—and tickets are still available.

Then we have this year's fete on Saturday 21st July. Barbara Bellingham and her fete committee have been working hard to try and make it another record year. In the raffle you could win £200—or even a gliding lesson kindly donated by the Hodgkinsons. Never tried gliding? Read about it on page 17—and don't forget to come to the fete!

Finally, we have a major new event being organised by Clare Shorrock for October: an Auction Of Promises and a 50/50 auction, Read about it on page 21.

Please support these events! They raise much needed funds for many village causes.

## A Red-Faced Technoprat

Here at The Chronicle we spare no expense in using the latest technical wizardry to bring you your monthly mag. So when I toured the open gardens last month I armed myself with my digital camera. The digital camera is a marvellous technological gadget. It has no film - pictures are recorded onto a tiny memory card and when I get home I plug the card into my computer and copy the pictures over before wiping the card for re-use. Its cool!

Except this time I forgot to copy the pictures before wiping the card! For those of you who just don't have clue what I'm warbling on about, let's just say I did the digital equivalent of opening the camera back before rewinding the film.

So my Open Gardens pictures were gone - wiped out - save for one or two like the picture of The Abbey on page 11, which I finally managed to recover.

I guess the moral of this story is that it doesn't matter how clever, whizz-bang and up to date the new technology is when you've got the same old-fashioned *schmuck* trying to operate the damn thing!

And I'm supposed to know about these things! There's no hope... no hope..

## Summer Break

There's no Chronicle next month. We take our annual summer break, forced upon us because our printers at Waddesdon School are on holiday.

Enjoy your holidays if you're going away this summer. PC Mike Buckle has sent us some advice for holidaygoers—see page 14.

We'll be back the first week in September. Have a great summer!



In This Issue

In this month's Sizzling Summer Special ~

- ◆ Rubbish
- ◆ Pig Roasts
- ◆ Home Farm Plans—a First Look
- ◆ Open Gardens
- ◆ Cultural Trip
- ◆ Wingrave Post Office Changes
- ◆ The Aston Abbots Auction

and much, much more.....

**THE CHRONICLE**  
**Issue 203**  
**July/Aug 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 24<sup>th</sup> August 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 Abbots, our local Doctor's Surgeries and to Wing Police House.

# The Peoples Page



## Happy Birthday

*Too many birthdays to fit on this page!! They're on page 9*

### JOCK DRYSDALE

Born 26th May 1919  
Passed away 23rd May 2001

Jock loved Aston Abbots. In past years many a happy day was spent talking to the locals while staying at the cottage. His last wish was granted—he now lies in St James near his wife Jean.

Many Thanks for all Condolences

### ETHEL FARRANDS

We are very sad to announce the sudden passing away of Ethel Farrands of 1 Norduck Cottages on the 19th June. At the age of 91 she was still active until the end, even gardening on the previous day.

### Golden Wedding

Very many congratulations to **Freddie and Irene Lowden** from the Telephone Exchange, who will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on July 14th.



### Welcome Home!

We're pleased to see **Jack Turner** has returned from hospital. We hope to see your wonderful hanging basket displays again before too long.

### Get Well!

We're sorry to hear **Len Scutchings** has been in hospital. We wish you a speedy recovery.



### She's a Winner!

Congratulations to **Tracey Hinds**, who won a Mix 96 radio phone-in competition not once but twice in the same week!



### Football Hero!

At Wingrave Junior Football Club **Daniel Smith** was awarded the under-11s trophy for the most improved player 2000-2001.

Previous names on this shield include Philip Wheaton, Daniel Wheaton and Daniel White—so he's continuing an Aston Abbots tradition.



### Thank You

To **Linda Sutton**, who has had to step down from the Parish Council after several years of service.



### Welcome to the World!

Congratulations to **Yvonne Hilton**, from No 1 Bricstock on the birth of baby **Callum** on the 21st May.



### Welcome to the World—2!

Congratulations to **Liz Barlow**, and **Ivan Greenaway** from Nashs farm on the arrival of their new little one. **Bianca** weighed in at a healthy 14 lbs, due partly to her long legs. We understand she has her mother's ears and her father's hooves.

You – yes you, madam - Cannot Miss

# ASTONBURY 2001

ASTON ABBOTTS' VERY OWN **LIVE OUTDOOR** MUSIC FESTIVAL  
TAKES PLACE AT NORDUCK HOUSE ON **SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**THE FUN STARTS AT 7.30pm** AND CONTINUES UNTIL  
THE SUN SETS.....OR THE BEER RUNS DRY!

Tickets only £5.00 for adults  
£1.00 for children under 16

- **Live music**
- **Cabaret Team Sings**
- **Showcase for local youngsters**
- **Sunset Disco**

## Bring a picnic

Astonbury takes place in a beautiful setting with lots of space for picnics

Get there early to grab the best spots.....

## Auction

All for  
village  
good  
causes

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW  
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NORDUCK HOUSE IS ON THE  
WESTERN EDGE OF THE  
VILLAGE – TURN RIGHT JUST  
BEFORE THE FIRST GATE  
ALONG MOAT LANE

**HAVE A PICNIC**  
Bring your own booze  
Sing along  
Light your Candles....  
Party!

# In The Village

## Rubbish

So just what extraordinary event was it that catapulted Andy Bystra, John Brancker, and several other dressing-gowned villagers out into the street at sparrowsfart on General Election day? Was it:

- An earthquake
- Mass hysteria
- A strange fraternal ritual
- Irrepressible *joie de vie*
- None of the above

If you answered 'e', then you were right. It was in fact the unprecedented early arrival of the dustbin men, who snuck into the village well before seven o'clock. Pausing only to empty the odd bin that had been put out the night before by some peculiarly prescient villager, they roared through the village at breakneck speed before anybody could get outside with their rubbish, leaving behind them small groups of perturbed parishioners indulging in indignant intercourse with their neighbours.

As they returned later in the day to do the job properly, prompted, we believe, by at least one complainant who gave them a piece of her mind, it's probable that only those hard-working villagers who are up and raring to go before seven were aware of this remarkable and unusual event. The other 98% of you slept through it all of course.

~ Phil Spooner

## Rubbish Collection

AVDC have confirmed to The Chronicle that it is quite likely that our rubbish will be collected early in the morning from now on. "They could start in your area anytime from 6.30 am onwards," a spokeswoman told us. So put your bins out the night before from now on folks.

## Home Farm Plans—A First Look

The fate of Home Farm has been the subject of considerable concern and speculation since Dickie Chapman's death last year. It's been known for some time that the property, rickyard and fields beyond have been acquired by Halton Properties (represented by Cole Flatt) and there have been a lot of rumours and gossip about new roads and big housing estates.

On Saturday June 16th residents of Church Row and Ross Road, which border the rickyard, were invited to attend a private meeting with Mr Cole of Cole Flatt and his architect. They were shown *provisional* plans of the proposed development and given the opportunity to ask questions.

The main proposals made, either in draft plans or in comments made by Mr Cole at this meeting, were: the Home Farm farmhouse and outbuildings to be sold off separately for renovation; three four-bedroom houses with double garages to be built in the rickyard; no building extension into 'Chapman's Field' at the rear, with the existing line of the field to be maintained; access to the development to be via the existing track between Rose Cottage and 65 The Green. No proposals

## Pig Roast At The Royal Oak

Bank holiday—and for once the weather was good. Teri and Gary had been to a family wedding the previous day and probably thought, what with a potential massive hangover, it would be a good idea to have a pig roast on Sunday evening.



The pub was humming with people and you had to fight your way to the bar to get a drink or four. Louie, the chef, provided an excellent service slicing off thick pieces of pork into very fresh rolls, there was cucumber, tomato and lettuce to accompany this. It was self service, no plates or serviettes and the price of £1.50 was excellent value, with 50p per roll going to Children with Leukaemia Charity. On the night £58.50 was raised, it would have been more, but the original equipment used for the roasting broke down so at the last minute another had to be hired using up £60.

The evening was accompanied by Experiments, a live group which proved extremely popular with everyone. It was also nice to see Frank and Louise who had ventured outside the confines of the B&B to enjoy an evening off.

Teri said it was hoped the pig roast was to be a regular event, (probably every four weeks) so keep an eye on the board outside the pub for the next one. Many thanks to everyone at the RO for a lovely evening.

~ Jackie Coates

## More Pig Roasts

Teri and Gary have now two more pig roasts planned for the summer:

**Saturday July 14th**

Live music from Experiments

**Sunday August 26th**

Live music from In-Out

were made for the future of the fields at the rear.

At the time of writing (19 June) no plans have been registered at AVDC. If development were to follow the proposals outlined above, the impact on the village as a whole *could* be relatively small, although the impact on some residents of Ross Road, all residents of Church Row (whose light will be seriously affected) and residents of Rose Cottage and 65 The Green will be significant. We cannot be sure that the plans to be registered shortly with AVDC will be absolutely identical with those on display (comments made at the meeting may be taken into account). Also, it is possible that the land affected will be sold if planning permission is secured. New owners may choose to submit different plans, for which new planning permission would be needed. The actual plans as outlined on 16 June were for the rickyard only. We cannot know what, in detail, the current or future owners would wish to do with the farmhouse.

Given the village's previous experience with certain developers

(Continued on page 10)

The Chilterns Dog Rescue Society was formed in 1963 to rescue unwanted and homeless dogs and to provide accommodation until such time as permanent homes can be found. Since the society was formed over 13,500 dogs have been successfully homed and we currently re-home approximately 500 dogs a year.

No dog, whatever size, age, temperament or background is ever refused help and the Chilterns Dog Rescue Society prides itself in that no dog is ever needlessly destroyed.

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If you think you can offer a dog a good home, please do get in touch and we will try to match you and your home with a suitable dog.

You can help us in a number of ways :-

- By assisting us with organising one of our regular and varied fund-raising events
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- Providing equipment for the kennels stainless steel bowls, collars, leads etc.
- Giving a donation or making a bequest or legacy.
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## Letters To The Editor

### Ripples

11 The Green, Aston Abbotts

Dear Editor

Whilst rejoicing in the fame that the Chronicle has brought me I regret that, as ever, the press has chosen to distort the facts in the "Pond life" article for the sake of sensationalism.

I did indeed have a chilling experience whilst striving to remove blanket weed, but I entered the water slowly, first one foot, then the other, sliding gradually and relentlessly into the deep end and remaining upright at all times.

What you omitted to stress is my stoic calm as I coped with my husband's anxious question on being told of my misfortune:- "Were any of the fish hurt?"

Only after I had reassured him of their well-being was he able to do the expected thing and fall about laughing!

Yours Respectfully,

*Christine Scott*

PS. I do not consider that this episode qualifies me as a diving instructor, but I am considering the possibility of running a course entitled "Life With Victor".

### Appalled at Vandalism

Crofters, Cublington

Dear Sir

I am writing to say how appalled I was to see the photo in the May Chronicle (page 5) showing the sheer vandalism and disregard of property in the partial destruction of the storage shed in the rec. The shed was paid for and built by volunteers at no cost to the village. The village hall stage seen in the picture was paid for by Owen McManus, and built by a volunteer. A lot of people gave up a lot of time for the good of the village by doing this work. I hope that your efforts to catch the low life that caused this damage are successful and that they are made to suffer the consequences.

*Chris Brandon*

### Cornish Gardens

Like Andi Swain I have been to the Eden Project (see May's Chronicle). I agree it can only get better. I was a bit disappointed at the plants, as most had only just been, or were still being, planted.

It was very interesting. We got there about 11.30. No queues, but we were back in the number 2 car-park. The whole thing is so huge. When you are sitting by the lake, people moving on the way out look like ants. I was most impressed by the sculptures of animals made of twigs. The mare and foal were very good, but the group of pigs was so well done you could almost feel them moving.

While in Cornwall I went to the Lost Gardens Of Helligan, which was more to my taste. I love old walled gardens.

Another garden which is a delight is Trebah near Falmouth. It even has its own beach, where we sat for an hour. The beach was used by the US 29th Infantry Division for D-Day. The perfume from some of the rhododendrons was lovely, and they do very nice reasonable lunches.

*~ Gwen Kempster*

## The Fete—How YOU Can Help!

### What We Need

Sort out **books, bric-a-brac, bottles** for the Tombola, **gifts, prizes**—including small prizes (e.g. little packets of sweets, small drinks, etc) for the children's Tombola. Please have these ready for collection on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th July.

Bake **cakes and plant up**. Plants to be delivered on the morning to the stalls. If you have any problem or queries the please contact Shirley Ford (cakes) on 681865 and Janet Biddle (plants) on 681102.

### Setting Up

We would appreciate it if cars could be removed from The Green and the entrance to The Grove before set-up commences at 10 am.

Volunteers are needed to help set-up, starting at 10 am on the day—July 21st. Also to help break down at around 5 pm.

### Raffle

Please try to sell as many tickets as you can to friends and relations. Try to sell them outside of the village if at all possible. That way we can sell more. If you can sell some more tickets and have run out, contact Liz Barlow on 682605.

### Enjoy Yourself!

Above all, please do come to the fete on Saturday the 21st July—spend some money—and enjoy yourselves!

*~ Barbara Bellingham*

## Church Room/Parish Hall/ Village Hall

Things may have seemed to have gone a bit quiet on the plans to bring the Church Room up to current standards, but at last there is some good news. We have just received the lease for the building and, providing all is satisfactory, will be going ahead with Building Regulations approval. Obviously, until we received the lease we couldn't go ahead with anything, even though there had been that overwhelming YES vote in our mini referendum earlier this year.

Now we need to get down to some serious fund raising! Although we already have over £6,500 in the bank, which is very impressive and we're very grateful to everyone who has made donations to the fund, we do need about £10,000 just to be able to start on the foundations.

A couple of big events are already in the pipeline: Astonbury (which was featured in last month's issue—and see page 4) is on 7<sup>th</sup> July and the Promise and 50-50 Auction on 7<sup>th</sup> October, which is being organised by Clare Shorrocks and Liz Barlow (see page 21 for more information). Caroline Lane is also planning to start up a 100 Club.

Do visit our stall at the fete to see the plans for the hall.

*~ Liz Hall*

## Wingrave School History

The first draft of the Wingrave school history website can be found via <http://clutch.open.ac.uk> under the heading "Work in Progress". As the groups are in alphabetical order we can be found near the end.

*~ Liz Hall*

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**JOHN SANSOME (Chairman)**  
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

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

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

## THE CHRONICLE

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

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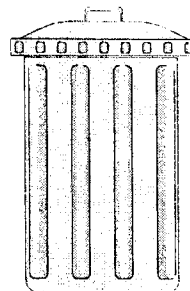
**GEORGE FOX**  
1 Church Row - tel. 682024

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

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

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# Happy Birthday

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| George Fox       | 2nd July         |
| Donna Wiggett    | 2nd              |
| Margaret Kent    | 6th              |
| Nigel Palmer     | 6th              |
| Len Scutchings   | 7th              |
| Nicola Lovell    | 9th              |
| Vic Scott        | 13th             |
| Gordon Smith     | 15th             |
| Diane Lovell     | 17th             |
| Andrew Plested   | 19 <sup>th</sup> |
| Ellie Williams   | 19th             |
| James Hartnett   | 21st             |
| Anne Brancker    | 24th             |
| Daniel Smith     | 24th             |
| Christy Oldfield | 24th             |

|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| Deirdre Whyte  | 27th      |
| Lawrence Hinds | 29th      |
| Nora Hartnett  | 30th      |
| Julia King     | 31st July |

|                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Paul Fletcher  | 4th August |
| Liz Barlow     | 4th        |
| Ivor Belgrove  | 7th.       |
| Doris Turner   | 10th       |
| Christine Fox  | 10th       |
| Mark Hewitt    | 11th       |
| Jackie Coates  | 12th       |
| Dorothy Hinds  | 14th       |
| Louise McManus | 17th       |
| Zoe Williams   | 19th       |
| Andrew Parker  | 21st       |
| Zoe Oldfield   | 24th       |
| Andrew Peacock | 24th       |
| Jenny Howell   | 27th       |
| Dean Wiggett   | 29th       |
| Poonam Gupta   | 29th       |

## Charles (Blaze) Lambourne

*[For those of you who don't know it, Blaze is the 43 year old horse who lives in the yard behind Home Farm—Ed]*

After my terrible mugging by three young horses I would like to say a big Thank You to the following people:

- ♥ Mr and Mrs Brandon, especially David—for saving me and getting me to a place of safety.
- ♥ Jackie Coates—for her nursing skills.
- ♥ Raymondo—emergency phone. Hot water.
- ♥ Kate—for the lovely rugs
- ♥ And to all the people in the village who ask about my well-being.

Just to let you know I am getting better slowly. There's just one bandage left on my leg, which is changed every three days.

*Love—Blaze*

Thank you everybody, from the bottom of our hearts—*Lydia and Tony.*

## The Ladies Club

On the 10th May the ladies enjoyed a fascinating talk from a Mrs Wildman, who told us about a three week holiday in Thailand.

On the 17th May Mr Gurney came and gave us a talk and film show about the RNLI organisation.

*~ Shirley Ford*

## Open Gardens—Thank You

Many thanks for all those who opened their gardens again this year (a popular event), served teas or manned the plant stall—and a special thank you to David de Silva for printing the tickets and posters.

Many people said how they had enjoyed the gardens and the knowledge of the people in them when they asked questions. They commented, "See you next year!"

As a result of the afternoon £515 was raised for St James Church and a further £101 from the plant stall for the Florence Nightingale Hospice.

On behalf of the Church, many thanks to you all.

*~ Colin Higgs*

## Movie Stars

A five piece band called Movie stars impressed the audience with their musicianship when they played at the Bull on Saturday 16th June. With a line up of drums, bass, guitar keyboards and saxophone they performed songs ranging from rock and roll through to 'classics' like Gary Moore's 'Still Got The blues', taking in a good smattering of popular 60s and 70s tunes on the way.

The band were excellent and they went down very well with those present. It was a bit disappointing that so few villagers were present to see them, though. You missed a good band, folks!

*~ Phil Spooner*



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## **Poo Fines**

The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Order 2001 came into force on June 1st. These new rules give councils the ability to impose on-the-spot fines of £25 and persistent offenders may now be prosecuted and fined up to £1000.

The rules apply to parks, recreation grounds, sports grounds and all verges and footpaths adjoining roads with a speed limit of 40 mph or less.

*~ Phil Spooner*

## **Houses and Plans**

Planning has been the subject of some discussion again over the past month.

Mrs McManus has appealed against the refusal of planning application to build five houses in Moat Lane. At the time of going to press the result of the appeal was still awaited. Surveyors were seen on two days measuring in the area around the Bull, but we don't know what they were up to. In mid-June villagers living near to Home Farm attended a meeting with its new owner's agents to discuss possible plans for the site (see the report elsewhere in The Chronicle).

Outside of the village, AVDC's plan to build 8000 houses in Bucks by 2011 is now being scrutinised by planning inspector Peter Bearsley. Over half of these houses are to be built around Aylesbury, with 3000 planned for Berryfields, 1600 for Broughton Stocklake and 850 for Weedon Hill.

*~ Phil Spooner*

## **The Things Americans Say**

"It's very important for folks to understand that when there's more trade, there's more commerce." ~ *George W Bush*

"A zebra does not change its spots." ~ *Al Gore*

"I get to go to lots of overseas places, like Canada." ~ *Brittany Spears*

"Baseball is 90% mental; the other half is physical." ~ *Yogi Berra*

"For every fatal shooting, there are roughly three nonfatal shootings. Folks, this is unacceptable in America, We're going to do something about it." ~ *George W Bush*

*(Continued from page 5)*

it is not surprising that there is quite a bit of suspicion and cynicism. The situation here is a little different as, unlike Nash's Farm, the farmhouse and rickyard of Home Farm are within the conservation area of the village.

Once plans have been registered with AVDC the familiar yellow signs will appear in the vicinity of Home Farm. If you are interested in this development watch out for these. After they appear, you will have three weeks to view the plans (contact Kate Curry or AVDC) and make comments.

*'The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance..' John Philpot Curran (1750-1817)*

*~ Phil Spooner*

## Open Gardens

Clutching a rolled umbrella and casting a suspicious eye towards some ominous looking distant dark clouds, Carol and I set off to enjoy the Aston Abbotts Open Gardens, which this year took place on 10th June. It is a perennial event, enjoyed not just by villagers, but also by many visitors. This year, and for the second year running, the Abbey Gardens were open to the public and once again they proved to be a big draw.

However, our tour around the gardens started the other end of the village at Oak Farm House, where Clare Shorrock and Karen I greeted us and relieved us of our entrance fee. All of the money raised from the event goes towards St James Church, of course.

Clare and Peter have finished the extensive house renovation in the six years since they moved into Old Farm House. The garden is still "under construction", but such a description does not do justice to the hard work that has already been done.

In the last year Clare has finished the herb garden near to the road at the rear of the House, extended the existing path to the rear fence where one-day there will be a seating area, and created a new herbaceous border. The pond has been dug and edged, and hopefully should get its concrete lining this year. To the left-hand side of the garden in front of a long and very well-tended border is the Millennium Oak, presented by grateful villagers after Clare and Peter's house and garden had been used for the Millennium New Year's party. This has now reached a height of 15 feet.

From Oak Farm House it was but a moment's walk around the corner to Vic and Christine Scott's. Their garden is packed with an immense collection of plants and shrubs, many personally collected by Vic and brought back from his travels to far-flung corners of the globe. It's a garden that takes a long time to appreciate, with its hidden gardens within gardens, nooks and crannies. I took the opportunity to inspect the fishpond, scene of Christine's recent "aquabatics" as reported in The Chronicle.

Signs of Vic and Christine's expert green-fingered touch were everywhere, with many fine examples of plants, vegetables, vines, shrubs and trees. During the last year Vic has planted a couple of new fruit trees to replace one that died.

Just yards away from Vic and Christine's is Barbara Bellingham and David de Silva's lovely garden at the Old House. I was very impressed by the spectacular Wisteria at the rear of the House, which makes our own specimens look rather disappointing. But the thing I love most about their garden is the magnificent Horse Chestnut at the end, with its table, bench and swing in the shade of its enormous branches.

Finally, it was on to the Abbey. It's hard to believe that so few people look after such a beautifully maintained garden. There's so much to see, with the collection of plants in the ancient greenhouse, the geometrically laid out formal garden, the pathways, the lake with its twin islands, and the little waterfall with its quiet seating area. Anybody hurrying to leave might risk missing the swimming pool garden, although the pool itself is now, sadly, used only as a compost heap.

It was when we were at the Abbey, a little after four, that the heavens finally broke. Fortunately it was only a five-minute shower and it didn't dampen the spirits or enthusiasm of those still walking round. Refreshments were available in the Church room for anybody exhausted by their walk and plants could be purchased there as well.

Although the Abbey is naturally the big attraction, all of the gardens on show were unique and beautifully tended. The event raised more than £500 and our thanks go to all of those who worked so hard to get their gardens ready, who allowed us to visit them, and who worked behind the scenes to make the event such a success.

*~ Phil Spooner*



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## Going On Holiday

### THAMES VALLEY **Police Advice ~** **POLICE**



In the next few weeks, you may well be going on holiday, please don't advertise your absence.

Most burglaries happen when a house is empty. Here are some helpful tips to make sure you do not have unpleasant end to your holiday:

- ◆ Cancel your milk and newspapers, bread and other regular deliveries.
- ◆ Lock all the doors and windows, including the shed and garage and put all the tools away.
- ◆ Turn the gas and water supply off. Turn off the electricity unless you need it for an alarm, freezer or time switches etc.
- ◆ Cut the lawn.
- ◆ Get a friend or neighbour to look after your home while you are away - to collect the

mail and free newspapers left in the letterbox, even mow the lawn and generally make the house look lived in.

- ◆ Ask your friend or neighbour to put the dustbin out for rubbish collection and to return it once emptied.
- ◆ Consider time switches to operate lights during the hours of darkness to give the impression the house is occupied.

Have a nice holiday and return relaxed, and hopefully making sure that the burglar does not have a holiday at your expense.

PC Mike Buckle, Wing Police Office, 01296 396163

*PC Mike Buckle  
Wing Police Office  
01296 396163*

## Stress Diet

Girls, do you worry and fret over your other half's late return from work/the pub, if so the following is a specially formulated diet designed to help you cope with the stress that builds up during the day;

### BREAKFAST

- 1 grapefruit
- 1 slice whole-wheat toast
- 1 cup skimmed milk

### LUNCH

- A small portion of, lean, steamed chicken with a cup of spinach
- 1 cup herbal tea
- 1 miniature Mars bar

### AFTERNOON TEA

- The rest of the mini Mars bars in the bag
- A tub of Hagen Daas ice cream with chocolate-chip topping

### DINNER

- 4 bottles of wine (red or white)
- 2 loaves garlic bread
- 1 family size supreme pizza
- 3 snickers bars

### LATE NIGHT SNACK

- Whole frozen Sarah Lee cheesecake (eaten directly from the freezer)

**REMEMBER: 'STRESSED' SPELLED BACKWARDS IS 'DESSERTS'**

*~ submitted by Dickie Dicken*

Patient: Doctor Doctor, I keep having these terrible premonitions

Doctor: Tell me, when did this start

Patient: This time next week

## Stupid Labels

In case you needed further proof that the human race is doomed through stupidity...

On a Sears hairdryer: "Do not use while sleeping."

On a bag of Fritos snacks: "You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside."

On a bar of Dial soap: "Directions: Use like regular soap."

On some Swanson frozen dinners: "Serving suggestions: Defrost."

On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom of box): "Do not turn upside down."

On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding: "Product will be hot after heating."

On packaging for a Rowenta iron: "Do not iron clothes on body."

On Boot's Children's Cough Medicine: "Do not drive a car or operate machinery after taking this medication."

On Nytol Sleep Aid: "Warning: May cause drowsiness."

On most brands of Christmas lights: "For indoor or outdoor use only."

On a Japanese food processor: "Not to be used for the other use."

On Sainsbury's peanuts: "Warning: Contains nuts."

On an American Airlines packet of nuts: "Instructions: Open packet, eat nuts."

On a child's Superman costume: "Wearing of this garment does not enable you to fly."

On a bottle of Palmolive Dishwashing liquid: "Do not use on food."

On a tube of Crest Toothpaste: "If swallowed contact poison control."

On a bottle of ALL laundry detergent: "Remove clothing before distributing in washing machine."

*~ Submitted by Dickie Dicken*



**ASTON ABBOTTS**

# **FETE**

**COME ALONG FOR ALL THE FUN OF THE  
FETE ON**

**SATURDAY 21st JULY  
AT 2.00PM**

**THE GREEN AND THE GROVE  
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Lots of Stalls and Games \* Raffle  
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Lots of things to win and buy  
Pony Rides \* Floral Display in Church  
Free Parking

## Wingrave Post Office and Stores... and Bakery

By the time you read this they should be baking fresh bread on the premises each day at Wingrave Post Office. As Helen now tells us, this is not the only change she and Andy are planning.

As you all know we are always open to suggestions as to how to improve our service. Pru Goodwin has often told us it that we really don't need a kitchen or even a living room and could better use that space for extending the shop! And the idea for the coffee shop has not gone unheard!

Seriously, we know that things in the Post Office and shop could be better. Space is at a premium and we are always struggling to fit more in!

After much thought, deliberating, coffee, costing, measuring and more coffee, we have decided that the shop needs a more professional and updated look for the 21st century, making shopping easier for customers and working here easier for staff. Over the next few weeks you will seek major changes as a team of shop fitters will be visiting us to install new fixtures and fittings. The Post Office will be totally refurbished with a new screen and counter. This may mean some disruption to Post Office trading for a couple of days, but this has yet to be

finalised [see *Stop Press* ~Ed]. Obviously we apologise for any inconvenience it may cause when this happens, but we are sure it will be worth it in the end.

Once the work is complete we will be re-merchandising the shop and joining our wholesalers symbol group 'Mace'. This will give us access to competitively priced goods, an extensive own-label range and quality special offers including "3 for 2s" and "BOGOF" (buy one get one free).

After two weeks hard work and to finish us all off we will be having a fun day to celebrate our re-launch, with lots of special offers, freebies and competitions for the children, a prize draw and perhaps a special guest appearing during the day!

In addition to all this we are also installing an in-store bakery to enable us to bake bread, pastries and savouries fresh on the premises daily (including Sunday!).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers past, present and future for their valuable support and hope that you will all approve of these changes. Finally we would like to welcome our new member of staff Cheryl who joins us to help in the Post Office. Cheryl has many years experience working for the

Post Office and we are sure that she will be a valuable member of the team.

~ Helen



### STOP PRESS

The Post Office (only) will close at 1 pm on Tuesday 17th July. It will re-open on Friday 20th July at 9 am.

During this time the shop will be open as normal.

## Cultural Trip

Aston Abbots has never been formerly "twinned" with any European villages, but a step in the right direction is being taken later this summer with an important cultural trip to the Continent being planned.

We are pleased to report that Aston Abbots will be sending a substantial delegation to the *El Staggo Grande* festival in Spain this September.

This educational expedition is being organised by head honcho of Swainsworld Tours - Mr Andi Swain - as a personal cathartic experience, prompted by pre-conubial perturbation. We are excited to announce that The Chronicle will be sending its Senior Overseas Reporter to bring you news and coverage of this special excursion.

Perhaps as many as a dozen Astonian delegates will undertake the pilgrimage from Luton to Torremelinos and attempts are being made to persuade a local medical practitioner to accompany the expedition in case there should be any cases of alcohol pois.... err.... Spanish Tummy.

As a service to our readers, it is expected that selected photographs of the event will be available from The Chronicle for a nominal fee - and, for those who require it, selected photographs will NOT be available for a somewhat more substantial fee.

~ Carl Sbergenchips

## The State Fair

Bill and his wife Martha went to the state fair every year and every year Bill would point at the old biplane doing pleasure trips and say, "Martha, I'd like to ride in that airplane."

Martha always replied, "I know Bill, but that airplane ride costs 10 dollars, and 10 dollars is 10 dollars."

One year Bill and Martha went to the fair and Bill said, "Martha, I'm 81 years old. If I don't ride that airplane I might never get another chance."

Martha replied, "Bill, that airplane ride costs 10 dollars, and 10 dollars is 10 dollars."

The pilot overheard them and said, "Look folks, I'll make you a deal. I'll take you both up for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and not say one word, I won't charge you, but if you say one word it's 10 dollars." Bill and Martha agreed and up they went.

The pilot did all kinds of twists and rolls and dives, but not a word was heard. He did all his tricks over again, but still not a word.

When they landed, the pilot turned to Bill and said, "Well, I did everything I could think of to get you to yell out, but you didn't!"

Bill replied, "Well, I was gonna say something when Martha fell out, but 10 dollars is 10 dollars."

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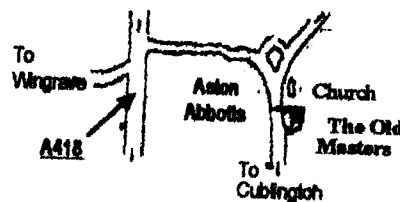
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## Gliding

When Sally Palmer won the Astonbury 2000 auction for a glider flight I remarked to Carol that it was something I would quite like to try. Carol noted my interest and next birthday I was very pleased to get a voucher for an introductory lesson. Being a sensible chap *[and a wimp who likes his comfort - Mrs Ed]* I decided not to take the lesson in the wintry December conditions and it wasn't until May that I finally made it to the London Gliding Club near Whipsnade Zoo.

My instructor John was soon introducing me to the surprisingly small two-seater trainer, its controls and instrumentation. Pointing out the rather blustery winds John enquired if I had a delicate stomach. "No," I snorted indignantly, lying through my teeth.

I wasn't prepared for the parachute. It just hadn't occurred to me. Although I quite like to try out various forms of airborne transport, never has leaping out of any of them figured particularly high on my list of priorities.

However, with parachute on I was soon strapped so securely into the front of the cockpit as to render any likelihood of me leaving it without the expert assistance of at least two ground crew as highly improbable anyway.

Time to go. John climbed into the second seat behind me, a small plane towed us across the airfield at increasing speed, we floated just above the ground while it reached its take-off speed, then we were fully airborne.

The aerotow circled the area, pulling us up to 2000 ft while we

bumped around gently in its slipstream and the spring winds. Then John released the tow cable and I suddenly found myself pondering the wisdom of being 2000 feet up in an engineless aircraft.

I needn't have worried. Despite some brief initial nervousness as John banked the glider to make the best use of the erratic winds and updrafts over the Dunstable Downs, I quickly found myself staring around me and thoroughly enjoying myself.

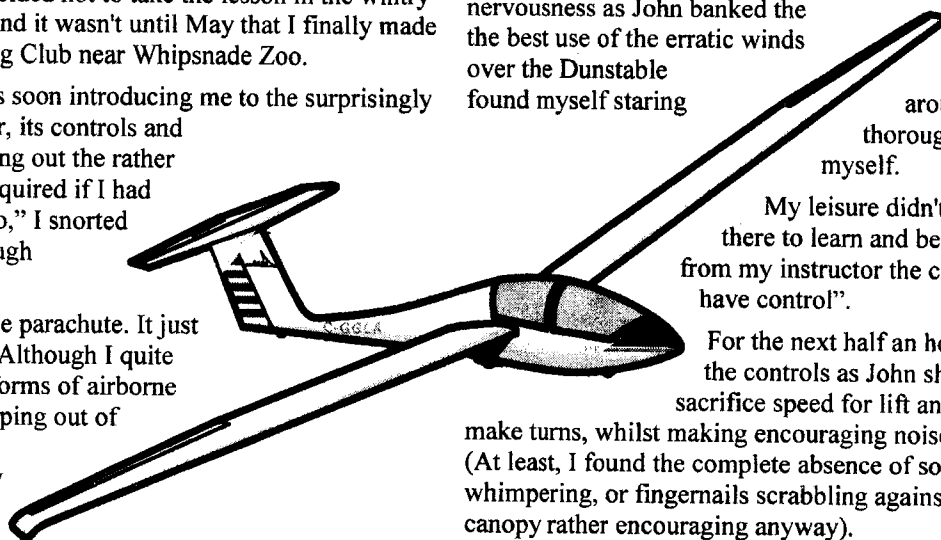
My leisure didn't last for long. I was there to learn and before long I heard from my instructor the chilling words "You have control".

For the next half an hour I took turns on the controls as John showed me how to sacrifice speed for lift and taught me how to make turns, whilst making encouraging noises from the back. (At least, I found the complete absence of sounds of screaming, whimpering, or fingernails scrabbling against the inside of the canopy rather encouraging anyway).

It was over all too soon. After more than half an hour, but what seemed like just a few minutes, we were bumping to a standstill on the grassy airfield.

So did I enjoy it? Most definitely - yes! It's great fun. Would I do it again? Once again, most definitely - yes! In fact, if I get lucky on Saturday 21st July I might get to do it sooner rather than later!

~ Phil Spooner



**WIN A GLIDING LESSON**

**WIN £200**

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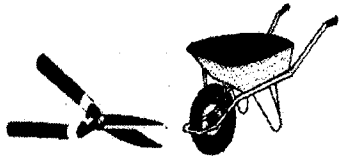
You could win any of these wonderful prizes in the Aston Abbots Fete 2001 Raffle!!

If you haven't got tickets, please contact Liz Barlow on 682605.

Tickets cost 50 pence. Draw takes place Saturday July 21st at Aston Abbots fete. Promotor I. R. Greenaway

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## Prague

Prague is a beautiful, historic and fascinating city and is small enough for all the main attractions to be within walking distance of a reasonably central hotel. Our hotel was in the old city and so, with the exception of a tram ride to the entrance to the castle at the top of the hill above the city, we walked everywhere. This had the added advantage of being able to stop at will to gaze at the detail on all the wonderful old houses and to window shop when something caught the eye.

Prague Castle is the biggest castle the world in terms of the area it covers. It is really a series of palaces, cathedrals and churches which have gradually covered the site over the centuries. The headquarters of the Czech President are housed in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century part - President Benes lived there before the war. Because of this wide range of dates of construction the architectural styles vary considerably which adds to the interest. St. Vitus Cathedral contains a suit of chain mail said to have belonged to St Wenceslas.

The Old Town is very picturesque with streets and squares lined with beautiful old houses. The New Town, on the other hand is not so lovely - definite relics of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Communist State taste. This includes Wenceslas Square, the scene of the student protests in the 1960's and the site of the memorial to the student who burnt himself to death in protest at the Russian invasion. It isn't really a square, more a very wide boulevard with forbiddingly communist architecture which does not encourage you to linger.

Charles Bridge, a wonderful, wide, cobbled bridge across the Vitava River, is only open to pedestrians. It is lined with thirty, mainly religious, statues, fifteen on each side. It is also lined with numerous stalls at which one can buy works of varying quality and taste by local artists, photographers and craftsmen. The Czechs are famous for their skills in manufacturing glass. The traditional Bohemian cut glass is beautiful and we did see

some stunning modern glass, but, alas, there was also a great deal of the most hideous and garish modern glassware all to obviously aimed at the tourist trade. We did however, find a couple of shops selling delightful wooden toys for which the Czechs are also justifiably famous.

One visit which is an absolute must is the Jewish Museum. This is housed in several different Synagogues, each one covering a different aspect of Jewish life and history. The most interesting ones for us were one describing the Jewish religion, its laws, ceremonies and rituals; one covering the history of Czechoslovak Jews including the holocaust years (this was almost unbearably moving); a small synagogue which was totally empty but whose cream coloured walls were covered with the names of the 77,297 Czech victims of the Nazis; and finally the extraordinary Jewish cemetery which is a chaotic jumble of 12,000 graves several deep as space was limited and the cemetery was in use for several centuries.

A last treat is the Astronomical Clock on the Old Town Hall, which dates from 1480. Every hour figures appear enacting a story while the immensely complex dock not only tells the time but tracks the sun and the moon and the signs of the Zodiac.

Prague is a lovely place to visit. The people are friendly and most speak English. Food is good, wine pleasant, beer justifiably famous and prices very reasonable. Do go.

~ Clare Shorrocks

---

"There is a theory which states that if ever anybody discovers exactly what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced by something even more bizarre and inexplicable. There is another theory which states that this has already happened." ~ Douglas Adams

---

## They're Fat and They're Back

only this time they've gone  
Hawaiian...the boys will be at  
the fete with their gastronomic

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# ASTON ABBOTTS AUCTION

In a marquee at The Old Master's Restaurant

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October

1.00 p.m.

Tickets £6 including a hot meal and a glass of wine

Followed by

an Auction of Promises & a 50/50 Auction

All proceeds to the Church Room Fund

With thanks to Andy and Becky for the use of the marquee, to Juan for the use of the restaurant facilities and to John Whyte who will be our auctioneer.

---

This should be a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon so bring your friends from outside the village. The food will be delicious, the wine superb (further supplies will be available for purchase) and the auctions should be entertaining as well as profitable. So apply for your tickets now while stocks last.

You can also take part in the auctions. Is there something you can offer to do for somebody without charging them? Make a cake, do an evening's babysitting, take them for a hot air balloon ride, lend them holiday accommodation, make their will – you name it we want to auction it. Or why not take the opportunity to rid yourself of that unwanted gift which is still in pristine condition and get 50% of the winning bid back for it. No object too large or too small as long as it is not damaged.

So fill in one or all of the forms below and return them to Clare Shorrocks at Oak Farm House, or phone her with your ticket order or auction offer on 681260 or Liz Barlow on 682605. Please state if you are vegetarian or have other special dietary needs.

---

Name (printed) ..... phone no:.....

Address.....

I would like .....tickets for the Aston Abbots Auction at £6 each and enclose a cheque for £.....  
made payable to Aston Abbots Village Hall Fund.

Signed.....

---

Name (printed) ..... phone no:.....

Address.....

I would like to promise to .....  
.....(brief description)

Signed.....

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Name (printed) ..... phone no:.....

Address.....

I would like to auction.....  
.....(brief description of object)

Signed.....

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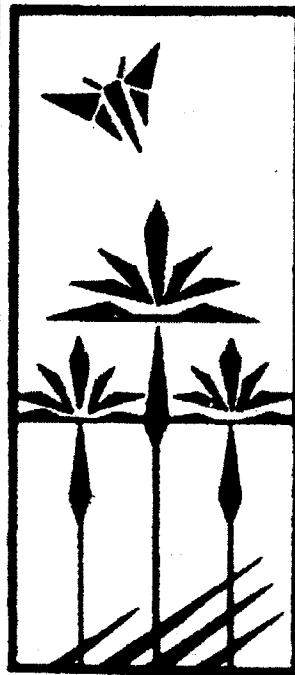
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# Country



# Style

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## Dublin

Like Prague, Dublin is small enough to be able to “walk it”. The atmosphere is lively – it feels as though something exciting is about to happen - and busy, and while there is masses to see and do it doesn't feel so much of a tourist centre as Prague. It's quite a good idea to start by taking one of the frequent bus tours of the city which, while they are not cheap, do give a good idea of the layout thus helping you to find your way around and to decide on priorities as to what to see. Here are some of the things we enjoyed most.

The Book Of Kells, housed in Trinity College with an excellent display showing how the ancient texts were decorated and made into books. The Book itself is exquisite with detail so minute as to defy description.

Dublin Castle with very good guided tour, packed with history much of which, needless to say, casts the Brits as villains but told with delightful Irish tact and humour. (It's worth buying your stamps at the main post office which was the scene of much of the fighting in the Easter Uprising and is hung with a series of somewhat gloomy paintings depicting the event. It also still bears bullet holes from the fighting.)

The National Gallery which has works by some excellent 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Century Irish artists and at the time we were there also had a fabulous exhibition of portraits executed in a wide variety of different mediums. The National Museum houses an enviable collection of Celtic artefacts. The Municipal Gallery of Modern Art in Parnell Square is small enough to study all the pictures in under an hour and has some wonderful paintings.

Merrion Square is justifiably famous for its wonderful Georgian houses, each of which has a different and exquisite fanlight over its front door. Nearby is 29 Fitzwilliam Street, a Georgian house which has been beautifully restored and furnished as it would have been when first built, again with a very good guide.

Temple Bar - an area of pedestrian cobbled streets lined with thriving and lively bars and restaurants, some offering very good traditional Irish dishes.

The Guinness Experience which is housed in the original warehouse/brewery building in which Arthur Guinness started his business in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This is a new attraction and is beautifully set out with lots of interesting, entertaining and informative exhibits in a stunning conversion of a redundant building. (Thinks: ‘If only the Dome had been like that’.) Good café style food and a free pint of the black stuff to end with in a circular, rooftop bar giving great views of the city.

There are many other incidental delights in Dublin such as the delightful statues of such figures as James Joyce, Molly Mollone and two women having a gossip. The Irish are unfailingly helpful, welcoming and humorous and you would have to try very hard indeed not to enjoy yourself! My only disappointment was that the weight my legs lost in two weeks of pounding the streets of two cities did not counterbalance the weight I gained round my middle due to two weeks of wining and dining out? Ah Well! Never mind!

~ Clare Shorrock

## The Space Shuttle and the Horses Ass

The US Standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8 1/2 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number.

Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and the US railroads were built by English expatriates.

Why did the English build them like that? Because the first railway lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Why did they use that gauge in England, then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

Okay! Why did their wagons use that odd wheel spacing? Because, if they tried to use any other spacing the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads. Because that's the spacing of the old wheel ruts.

So who built these old rutted roads? The first long distance roads in Europe were built by Imperial Rome for the benefit of their legions. The Roman roads have been used ever since. And the ruts? The original ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagons, were first made by the wheels of Roman war chariots. Since the chariots were made for or by Imperial Rome they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing.

Thus, we have the answer to the original question. The United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8 1/2 inches

derives from the original specification for an Imperial Roman army war chariot. Specifications and bureaucracies live forever.

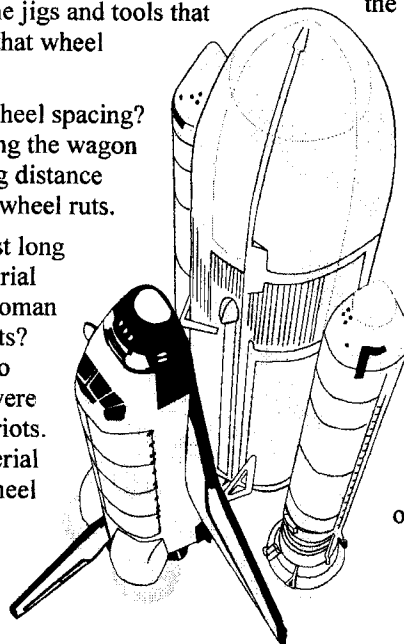
So, the next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's Ass came up with it, you may be exactly right. Because the Imperial Roman chariots were made to be just wide enough to accommodate the back-ends of two war-horses.

Plus, there's an interesting extension of the story about railroad gauge and horses' behinds. When we see a Space Shuttle sitting on the launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are the solid rocket boosters, or SRBs.

The SRBs are made by Thiokol at a factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs might have preferred to make them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad from the factory runs through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than a railroad track, and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So a major design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was originally determined by the width of a horse's ass.

~ submitted by Liz Barlow




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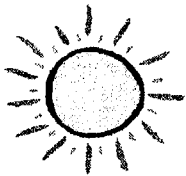
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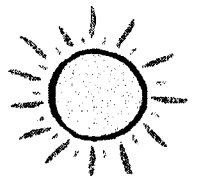
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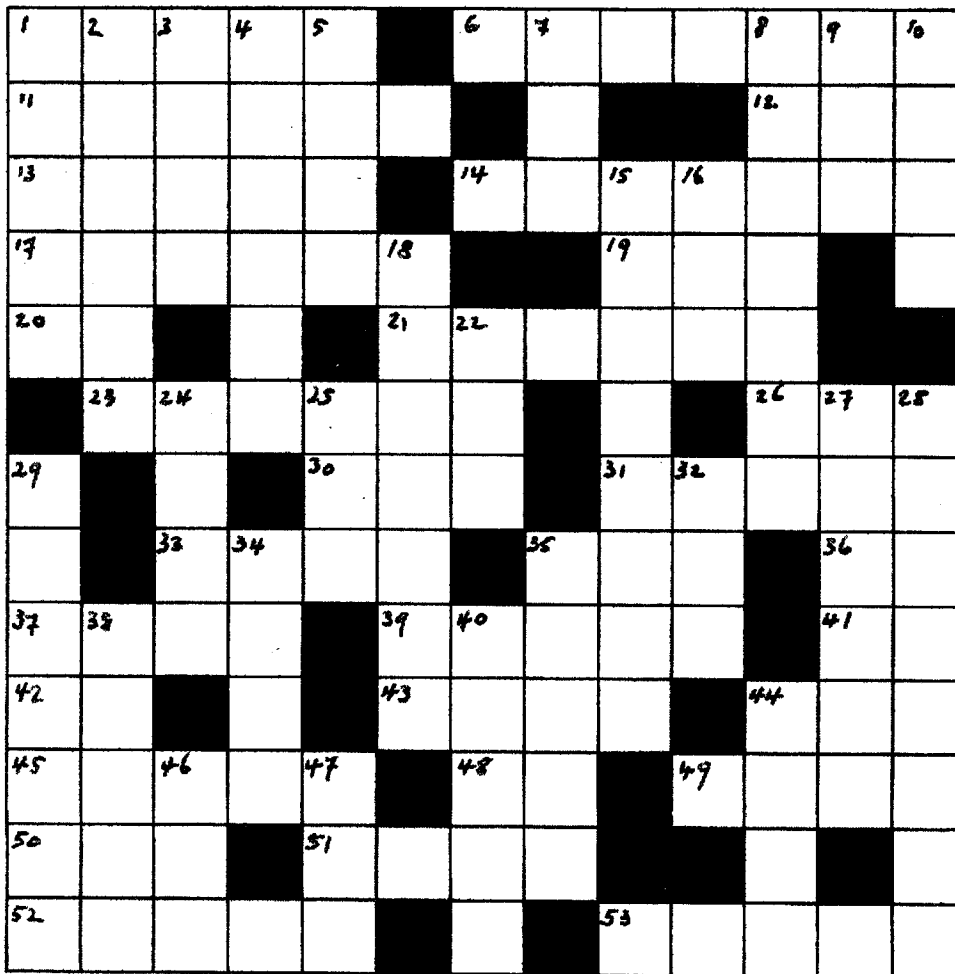


**Call Mary on 01296 681218 for  
further details**



# The Chronicle Crossword

July/August 2001



## Answers to June ACROSS

1 Whitchurch. 7 Me. 9 Ham. 10 An. 11 Lag. 12 Imam. 13 Dallies. 16 Fig. 17 Diadems. 18 Seated. 21 Oil. 23 Ah. 24 Done. 25 Tonne. 27 PHD. 28 Sago. 29 Loot. 32 Void. 34 Dogma. 36 Pee. 37 Trim. 38 Stir. 40 Basin. 42 And. 43 Need. 45 Nascent. 46 Doom.

DOWN: 1 Whip. 2 Hamish. 3 Image. 4 Haddenham. 5 Un-aided. 6 Cold. 7 Massing. 8 Eg. 11 Lemonade. 14 LA. 15 Ie. 19 Ad. 20 Top. 22 Leopold. 23 Abkution. 26 Osier. 30 Odious. 31 Tom. 33 Opline. 35 Ass. 39 Tin. 41 Ann. 42 Ado. 44 Ed.

## ACROSS

- 1&6. Local Village (5&7)
- 11. Short sightedness (6)
- 12. Fear; Wonder (3)
- 13. Tree (5)
- 14. Dishonourable (7)
- 17. SEE ROT (anag 6)
- 19 Lubricate (3)
- 20. Compass point (2)
- 21. Small stone (6)
- 23. Title of small boy (6)
- 26. Help (3)
- 30. ROE (Anag 3)
- 31. Musical composition
- 33. Greek letter (4)

35. Large bird (3)

- 36. Printer's measure (2)
- 37. STUD (Anag 4)
- 39. Prescribe for (5)
- 41. Where it's \_\_ (2)
- 42. \_\_ & off (2)
- 43. Merit (4)
- 44. O.T. Priest (3)
- 45. Power (5)
- 48. N. Ireland (abbr.2)
- 49. Crowd (4)
- 50. Est. arrival time (3)
- 51. On one occasion (4).
- 52. Artificial material (5)
- 53. Fire remains (5)

## DOWN

- 1. Gather together (5)
- 2. Method (6)
- 3. POET (anag 4)
- 4. Musical dramas (6)
- 5. A number (4)
- 7. Limb (3)
- 8. A TUB ALE (anag 7)
- 9. A bird (3)
- 10. Want (4)
- 15. A Peer (8)
- 16. Lubricate (3)
- 18. Work; function (7)
- 22. Before (poetic 3)
- 24. Clerical vestments (4)

25. Small child (3)

- 27. IS LEAD (anag 6)
- 28. Teeth experts (8)
- 29. Stomach (7)
- 32. Expressing rebuke 3
- 34. Engrave (4)
- 35. Weird (5)
- 38. Oneness (5)
- 40. Farm (5)
- 44. Every one (4)
- 46. Short gallon (3)
- 47 Unit of weight (3)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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## Rectors Report

One of the small-ads in the church Times recently caught my eye. It read:- "New choir of small village Church would like robes. Adult sizes. 9 Female, 3 Male. Phone xxxxxxxx".

My first reaction was whether the priority was how nice the choir looked or how well they sang? Both are of course important – although I think that I would prefer a choir that sang well rather than one that looked pretty.

There is something about having a robed choir – in theory at least – something to do with the discipline of being in uniform. This sense of discipline was certainly important in those long-ago days when I was a choirboy. There was then a very strict sense of discipline, and brown shoes or sandals were not permitted (this was long before trainers had been thought of)! There was a sense of pride in being allowed to wear the uniform of a chorister – and frequent reminders about how one should behave – with a sense of respect for holy places and holy things. Even the organist, who couldn't be seen by the congregation, felt the need to be "properly dressed" in order to fulfil his role.

There are some occasions when choirs do need to be seen to be well turned out. When there are processions in large churches and cathedrals it is important that the choir moves gracefully and purposefully, because their attitude and bearing can destroy the sense of worship. There are few things worse than a choir procession that shuffles in, swaying like a ship in a rough sea. In a way it is only a small thing – but it makes a tremendous difference to the perception of the occasion.

I sense that we are moving away from the era of formality and "dressing up" in Church. But this is surely only a natural progression from the way in which our general dress-code is changing. On the whole people dress far more informally than they did – and I know that some firms now have days on which the staff can wear casual clothes to work. We tend to be far more relaxed about the way we do things. Some of the bowing and scraping that used to take place in church had very little to commend it – although, as the saying goes, there are times and places where such things are appropriate.

But I am not sure that small village churches still really need to have robed choirs. A group of people to lead the singing is fine – but I do not think that they need to be dressed up. And, if there are twelve who need to be dressed up, how many does that leave in ordinary clothes in the congregation of a small village church?

~ Bob Willmott

## June's DIY Pop Quiz Answers

*I'm Still Standing - Elton John* 2. *Born To Be Filed - Steppenwolf*  
3. *Wooden't It Be Wood - Nik Kershaw* 4. *Saw Man's Son - The Rocking Berries* 5. *Glue Monday - New Order* 6. *Wonderful Knife (2 answers) - Cliff Richard / Black* 7. *Mama Told Me Not To Plumb (2 Answers) - Three Dog Night / Tom Jones With The Stereophonics* 8. *T'ain't What You Glue It's The Way That You Glue It - Fun Boy Three & Bananarama* 9. *Sand By Me - Ben E King*  
10. *I Got Glue (late 70s/early 80s) - Split Enz* 11. *Filed Thing - The Troggs* 12. *All I Wanna Screw (2 Answers) - The Byrds / Sheryl Crow* 13. *Lady Drill Power - Gary Puckett And The Union Gap*  
14. *How Do You Screw It - Gerry & The Pacemakers* 15. *So You Win A Plane - Hot Chocolate* 16. *B & Q And A Dog Named Boo - Lobo* 17. *It's My Knife - Talk Talk* 18. *I'm Into Something Wood - Herman's Hermits* 19. *I Think I'm Paran-Oiled - Garbage*  
20. *Only Glue - Yazoo* 21. *Filler (2 Answers) - Michael Jackson / Adamski featuring Seal* 22. *No Re-Grouts (2 Answers) - Walker*

## 1st Wingrave Scout Group

### Beavers

We have been busy with craftwork, making paper mache Beavers. We have also made Fathers Day cards to show our Dads how special they are. We spent an evening planting Sunflower seeds, the Beavers need to look after them to see whose grows the tallest. We also had a day at the Beaveree on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June at Chalfont St Peter, which was wonderful, lots of crafts and activities to keep the Beavers busy for hours. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

### Cubs

We have spent pack meetings planning the entertainment for the A.I.M. The parents who came along certainly seemed to enjoy the Cub's efforts. We also practiced for the Athletes badge and took part in the District competition at Wendover, where we came 1<sup>st</sup>. Well done Cubs, they worked hard and we are very proud of them. Many of the Cubs will gain stages 1, 2 or 3 of their Athletes badge.

We have also spent pack meetings preparing for our summer camp, learning how to pitch a tent and how to treat it carefully (no shoes inside for example). There are a number of skills the Cubs need in order to gain their Campers badge, we aim to complete this by the end of camp.

### Scouts

The Scouts have been planning future meetings; they have a great deal of input into organising their own activities. This is challenging for the Scouts, but also an invaluable insight into the skills needed to organise events.

They also held a joint games evening with the Cubs. This type of activity is very important for both sections, as part of their award work involves meetings with other sections. Wide games have also been held around the village, which the Scouts always enjoy.

For information about the sections either contact the section leader, or pop along to a meeting. We meet at the Scout Hut at the end of Chiltern road.

Beavers Monday evenings 6.00-7.00pm  
Phone Jan Antisiewicz 681430

Cubs Tuesday evenings 6.30-8.00pm  
Phone Nikki Reeve 681372

Scouts Friday evenings 7.30-9.30pm  
Phone Jeff Pollard 625454

We are always looking for people to help out, either at meetings, fundraising, or on the committee, if you can spare a few hours we would love to hear from you. Group Scout Leader Jeff Pollard 625454

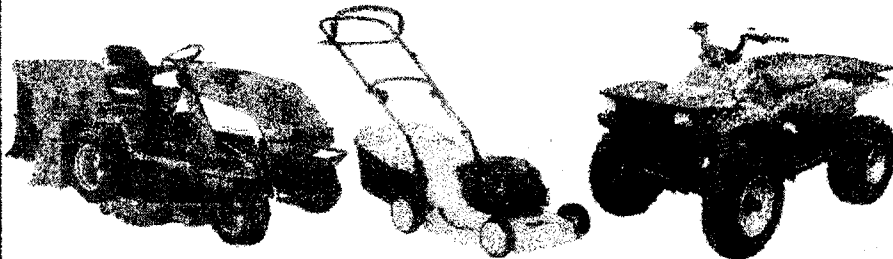
~ Julia Ellis (681118)

*Brothers / Robbie Williams* 23. *Lady Dab 'N' Seal - Cat Stevens (Lady D'Arbanville)* 24. *No Dowel-T About It - Hot Chocolate*  
25. *Wooden-T It Be Nice - Beach Boys* 26. *Stain With Me Till Done - Judie Tzuke* 27. *What Becomes Of The Broken Art Bit - Jimmy Ruffin* 28. *I Saw Her Sanding Stairs - The Beatles*  
29. *I Saw Him Sanding Stairs - Tiffany* 30. *You're The Vice - John Farnham* 31. *Indescribably Glue - Elvis Presley* 32. *Young Turps - Rod Stewart* 33. *Won't Get Tooled Again - The Who*  
34. *Glue Glue Barabajagal - Donovan And The Jeff Beck Group*  
35. *Nailing - Rod Stewart* 36. *I Just Don't Know What To Do With My Shelf - Dusty Springfield*

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# St James Church

## Church Services

### July

|                  |       |                     |                             |
|------------------|-------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st July         | 10.00 | Service at Amersham |                             |
|                  | 10.00 | Wingrave            | Sunday Club                 |
|                  | 18.00 | Wingrave            | Choral Evensong             |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | 08.00 | Wingrave            | Prayer Book Style Communion |
|                  | 08.45 | Cublington          | Parish Communion            |
|                  | 10.00 | Wingrave            | People's Praise             |
|                  | 11.15 | Aston Abbots        | Parish Communion            |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00 | Wingrave            | Parish Communion            |
|                  | 10.00 | Cublington          | Family Communion            |
|                  | 11.15 | Aston Abbots        | Parish Communion            |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 08.45 | Cublington          | Parish Communion            |
|                  | 10.00 | Wingrave            | Parish Communion            |
|                  | 18.00 | Aston Abbots        | Songs of Praise (see below) |

### August

|                      |       |              |                               |
|----------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Aug  | 10.00 | Cublington   | Three Parish Family Communion |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>     | 08.45 | Cublington   | Parish Communion              |
|                      | 10.00 | Wingrave     | Parish Communion              |
|                      | 11.15 | Aston Abbots | Parish Communion              |
| 19 <sup>th</sup>     | 10.00 | Aston Abbots | Three Parish Communion        |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>     | 08.45 | Cublington   | Parish Communion              |
|                      | 10.00 | Wingrave     | Parish Communion              |
|                      | 11.15 | Aston Abbots | Parish Communion              |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept | 10.00 | Wingrave     | Three Parish Communion        |

## Church Sidesmen

| July |                     | August |                       |
|------|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 1st  | Service at Amersham | 5th    | Service at Cublington |
| 8th  | Mr. A Ford          | 12th   | Mr. A. Ford           |
| 15th | Mr. J Hartnett      | 19th   | Mr. J Hartnett        |
| 22nd | Mr. G Kemp          | 26th   | Mr. G Kemp            |
| 29th | Mr C. Higgs         |        |                       |

## Church Flowers

| July |                | August |            |
|------|----------------|--------|------------|
| 1st  | No service     | 5th    | No service |
| 8th  | Mrs. Parker    | 12th   | Mr C Higgs |
| 15th | Miss A Goodman | 19th   | Mrs Bean   |
| 22nd | Festival       | 26th   | Wedding    |
| 29th | - Donated      |        |            |

## Sunday Readings

### July

|                      |                |  |
|----------------------|----------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> July | Peter & Paul   | Ezekiel 34.11-16<br>John 21.15-22            |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>      | Trinity 4      | Galatians 6.7-16;<br>Luke 10.1-11,16-20      |
| 15 <sup>th</sup>     | Trinity 5      | Colossians 1.1-14;<br>Luke 10.25-37          |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup>     | Mary Magdalene | 2 Corinthians 5.14-17;<br>John 20.1-2, 11-18 |
|                      | Trinity 6      | Colossians 1.15-28;<br>Luke 10.38-42         |
| 29 <sup>th</sup>     | Trinity 7      | Colossians 2.6-15;<br>Luke 11.1-13           |

### August

|                     |            |   |
|---------------------|------------|---|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Aug | Trinity 8  | Colossians 3.1-11;<br>Luke 12.13-21     |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>    | Trinity 9  | Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16;<br>Luke 12.32-40   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup>    | Trinity 10 | Hebrews 11.29-12.2;<br>Luke 12.49-56    |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>    | Trinity 11 | Hebrews 12.18-29;<br>Luke 13.10-17      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sep | Trinity 12 | Hebrews 13.1-8,15-16;<br>Luke 14.1,7-14 |

## ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Rev Bob Willmott | 681623 |
| Gordon Kemp      | 681763 |
| Shirley Ford     | 681865 |
| Ann Goodman      | 681763 |
| Andrew Ford      | 681865 |

## Open Air Service

*Weather permitting, there will be an open-air Songs Of Praise service on the Sunday of the Festival weekend ~*

*Sunday 22nd July at 6 pm*

*Bring your own chairs please.*

*If it rains we will have a service in the Church*

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# What's On In July & August

## July

- Tuesday 3rd** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
- Saturday 7th** Astonbury Norduck House 8.00
- Sunday 8th** Coach trip to Eastbourne. Book with Colin
- Thursday 12th** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00
- Saturday 14th** Pig Roast at the Royal Oak. Live Music.
- Tuesday 17th** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
- Saturday 21st** Village Fete. Opens 2.00pm.
- Sunday 22nd** Church & Tower open 2.00 – 4.30pm.  
Songs of Praise 6.00pm. **Open-Air service**
- Thursday 26th** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00
- Sunday 29th** Rambling Club members meet  
11 Lomond Drive Linslade at 2.00pm.
- Tuesday 31st** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm

## August

- Wednesday 1st** Parish Council Meeting Church Room  
8.00 pm.
- Sunday 5th** Village footpath walk. The Green 2.00pm
- Tuesday 7th** Aylesbury Vale Holiday Walk. Meet the Bell,  
Market Sq. 12.30pm.
- Thursday 9th** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Tuesday 14th** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
- Thursday 16th** Aylesbury Vale Holiday Walk. Meet The  
Green 11.15am.
- Sunday 19th** Rambling Club members meet Mursley  
2.00pm.
- Thursday 23rd** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm  
Also Toddlers Group in the Church Room  
10.00-12.00
- Sunday 26th** Pig Roast at the Royal Oak. Live Music.
- Monday 27th** Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 28th** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm.
- Friday 31st** Refuse Day (NOT THURS!)

## Christian Aid

I would like to give a big Thank You to those who gave to the Christian Aids week around The Green, Bricstock and Nashs Farm.

You tremendously donated the amount of £93.18.

Thank you once again.

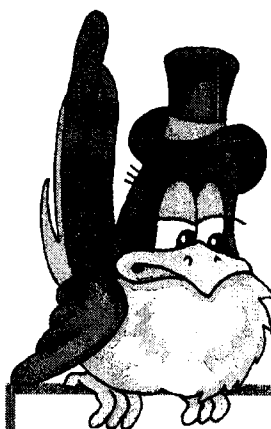
Vika Drysdale

The local organiser said, "A very good result—up £24.47 on last year. The total for Aston Abbots was £164.33 and the total for all the villages was £1253.84.

## Places To Visit During The Hols

- ⊕ Aylesbury Museum
- ⊕ Quainton Railway
- ⊕ Bird watching and walking at the reservoirs
- ⊕ Waddesdon Manor
- ⊕ Buckingham Gaol Museum
- ⊕ Leighton Buzzard narrow gauge railway
- ⊕ Whipsnade Zoo
- ⊕ Bletchley Park 01908 640404
- ⊕ Olney Museum & Weston Underwood Flamingo Park  
01234 711451
- ⊕ Legoland Windsor
- ⊕ London; museums, shopping, open bus tours & trips on the river.

~ Colin Higgs



### Aston Abbots Festival 2001 FETE COLLECTION

We will be calling to collect items for the fete on the evenings of

**MONDAY 16th July**  
and

**TUESDAY 17th July**

Please donate **Bric-a-Brac, Groceries, Bottles** for the tombola, **Gifts** for prizes, **Books**, etc. Every bit helps!!!

Please deliver **Cakes and Plants** to the stalls on the day

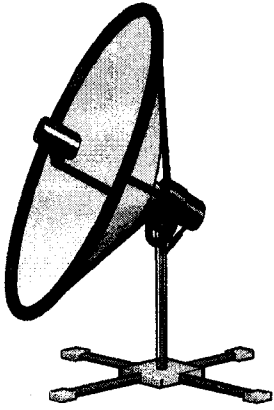
Don't forget to come to the fete on Saturday 21st July!

Contact Barbara Bellingham on 681689 to arrange an alternative collection date

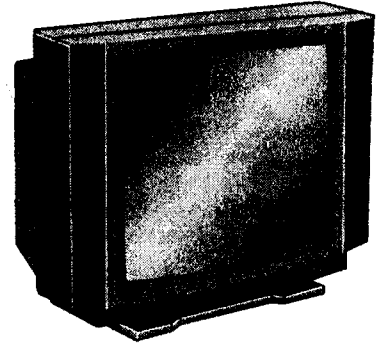
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OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

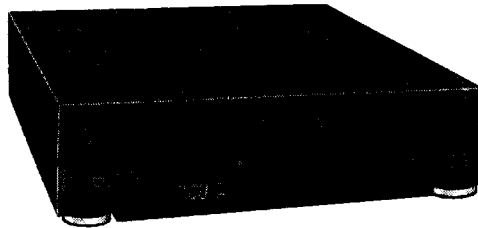


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RENTALS, NEW  
AND USED SALES

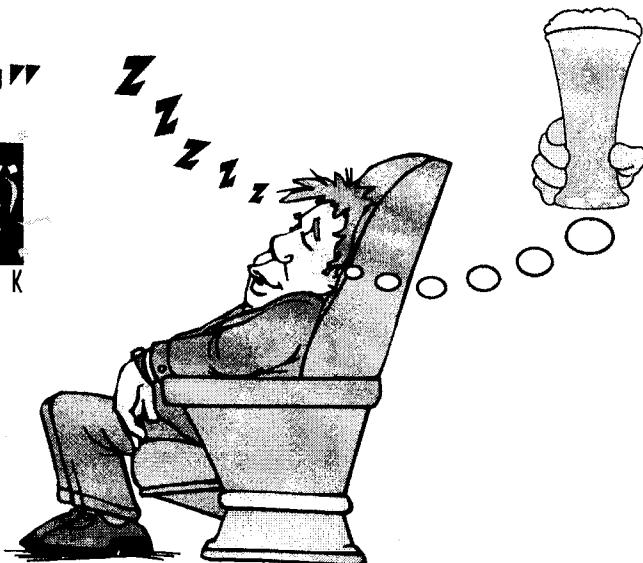
MOST MAKES  
REPAIRED  
THE SAME  
DAY



NO CALL OUT  
FEE WITHIN  
ASTON  
ABBOTTS

PHONE DAVE LEWIS  
ON 01296 682126

**"RENT"**  
**PLAY**  
OF THE WEEK



Alison takes Dave to the theatre

FRIENDLY  
SERVICE

SPECIAL  
ANTIQUE  
HANDLING  
EXPERIENCE