

# THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 204 ~ SEPTEMBER 2001

## A PERFECT DAY!!!



CHRISTINE AND VIC SCOTT ENJOY A WELL-EARNED CREAM  
TEA HELPING BEHIND THE BRIC-A-BRAC STALL AS THE FETE MAKES...

# £3,118!

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

# Editorial

## We're Back!!!

After a two month break the holidays are over and the Chronicle is back with another bumper issue that's bursting at the seams. The long gap between issues means that there were one or two too many items to include this month, so my apologies to anybody whose submission has been carried over until October.

There's lots of news to catch up on, so read on....

## A Perfect Day

Amazing!! Unbelievable!! Incredible!! Just some of the comments made by villagers upon hearing about the record profit made at this years fete. It was a great day and we have both a report and the accounts in this issue of The Chronicle.

At the fete debrief meeting held a week after the fete it was agreed that there were too many people to thank individually, so names should not be mentioned. However, one of the advantages of being editor is that I can write and print what I jolly well please, and so I am going to mention just one name—that of fete committee co-ordinator Barbara Bellingham who pulled together the committee and steered us to our most successful fete ever. Not only that, but she has indicated that she is prepared to be co-ordinator next year too. Well done Barbara—and thank you!

## The Aston Abbots Auction

A unique event—never before held in Aston Abbots—takes place on Sunday the 7th October. For just a measly six quid you can get a hot lunch, a glass of wine, and a *lot* of fun.

The Aston Abbots Auction is the brainchild of Clare Shorrock. Having attended a similar event in the village in which she lived prior to coming to Aston Abbots she realised that this would not only be great fun, but could also raise much needed funds for the Church Room renovation.

This event needs three things to be a success. It needs people to make promises that can be auctioned—these can be serious, fun or just plain silly. Secondly, it needs people to put forward items to be auctioned—remember you keep half the money. Finally it needs people to come and have a good time. Full details and entry forms are on pages 21 and 22. Please do come, bring your friends, and have a great time.

## Harvest Festival and Sale

This years Harvest Festival is on Sunday 16th September. After the morning Church service the Harvest Sale of local produce takes place at 7pm in the Bull and Butcher. The Harvest Sale was the first village event that Carol and I attended after moving to Aston Abbots and it was the first time we really met some of "the locals". It's a fun auction, open to all, where you can bid for local fruits, jams, vegetables and so on – so why not come along. Everybody is most welcome.

*Phil*

# THE CHRONICLE

## Issue 204

### Sept 2001

## Contacts

### Editorial / General

Phil Spooner  
The Birches  
Wingrave Road  
01296 681544  
editor@aston-abbots-chronicle.co.uk

### Distribution

Andy Bystra  
31 The Green  
01296 681690

### Advertising

Ivan Greenaway  
1 Nash's Farm  
01296 682605  
ivan@livanti.com

~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 28<sup>th</sup> September 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.

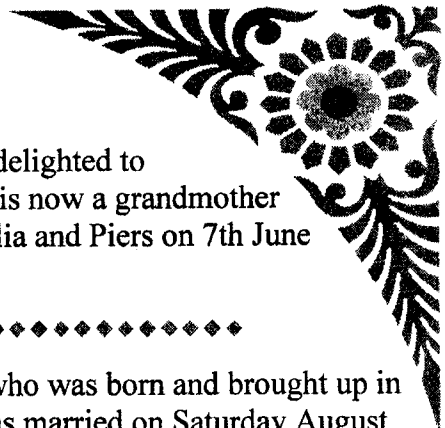
*In This Issue*

*In your super September smasher ~*

- ◆ Fete Report and Accounts
- ◆ Astonbury Reports
- ◆ Aston Abbots Auction—Full Details
- ◆ Don't Catch A Virus
- ◆ Police Advice On Security
- ◆ How To Medicate Your Cat
- ◆ Parish Council Reports

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

# The Peoples Page



## Happy Birthday

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

**Anita Parker** is delighted to announce that she is now a grandmother to Lilli, born to Julia and Piers on 7th June in Brighton.



**Dean Wiggett**, who was born and brought up in Aston Abbotts, was married on Saturday August 18th at Oving to Jane Watts.

We wish them the very best for their future happiness together.



Congratulations to **Sally and Nigel Palmer** who celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary this month. We wish you many more happy years together.



Our very best birthday wishes and Many Happy Returns to **Louise Palmer**, who is 21 this month



Congratulations to Liz Barlow and Ivan Greenaway whose frantic breeding efforts have been rewarded with another two new arrivals - **Brooklyn** and **Bethany**



Please let the Chronicle know about your birthdays, anniversaries and celebrations. Or maybe you want to pass on some congratulations or a special message.

Just contact The Chronicle with the details.



**Mrs Steel**, who lived at The Firs for many years, visited the village on Friday 24th August and gave a donation towards the renovation of the Village Hall.

Congratulations to all those youngsters in Aston Abbotts who have recently passed their **Exams**. We hope your hard work earned you the results and grades you hoped for.



### Christian Aid Week

The collection in the village raised £164.33. Collectors were Vikka Drysdale, Janet Biddle and Anita Parker.

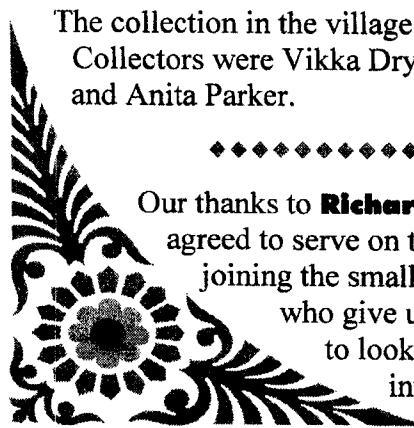


Our thanks to **Richard Clarke** who has agreed to serve on the Parish Council, joining the small team of volunteers who give up their valuable time to look after our village interests.

## LEN SCUTCHINGS

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Len Scutchings in July. He will be sadly missed and our sympathies go out to his widow Doris.

Please see Andy's item on page 5



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.

We put a lot of effort into putting the right dog into the right home, as well as providing training support where needed.

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
- Collecting blankets and towels for use at the kennels.
- Providing equipment for the kennels stainless steel bowls, collars, leads etc.
- Giving a donation or making a bequest or legacy.
- Helping out as a dog walker.

The offices are open every day from 10.30 am to 2.00 pm.

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Bucks, HP5 3NX

Tel No : 01442 876009

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# In The Village

## Len Scutchings

It was only in our last issue that we were all wishing Len a speedy recovery, when, following a brief spell in hospital he died on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. His funeral was held on the 19<sup>th</sup> in St James Aston Abbots.

I can't remember our church being quite so packed as it was on that occasion. Family, friends, Service chums, a large contingent of Royal British Legion as well as villagers past and present were all there to pay their respects to Len. Those of us who arrived with ten to fifteen minutes to spare had to stand at the back. Such were the numbers attending that even hymn books had to be shared. The church had been decorated very appropriately for the service with red poppies in many of the window dressings. Bob Willmott conducted the service during which he gave an outline of Len's colourful civilian and Service life. No wonder so many came to pay their last respects. We will remember him.



## Andy Ford

On the 16<sup>th</sup> Sept, Andy Ford will be running in this year's Great North Run from Newcastle to South Shields. It's a half marathon and Andy has decided to run for a charity called **Children Nationwide**. This charity was established in 1977 since when it has contributed more than £20 million to research into childhood diseases. Many major breakthroughs have been funded so far but they recognise that there is still much more progress to be made.

Andy is hoping, to raise a significant amount of money to give to this charity through sponsorship during his run. Please help Andy by supporting him in this venture. Sponsor forms should be in both pubs by now but you can always ring him on 681865.

Thank you for your support.



## Don't Catch a Virus

do enjoy receiving your letters, notes and articles—and these days many of them arrive by email. Unfortunately, one that arrived a couple of weeks ago was carrier of a nasty little computer virus, of a type called a 'trojan', that tries to steal passwords and other confidential information and pass it back out to the internet. It was a sneaky little rascal, managing to infect the sender's computer and mail itself to me while the unwitting sender remained blissfully unaware of its presence.

Fortunately no harm was done as my own defences spotted it, so I was able clear it before passing it on and I also informed the sender who disinfected their own computer. However, there is a clear lesson here: if you're using the internet and email you are at risk of damage or theft caused by viruses, worms and trojans. A virus checker program is not a luxury and it must be kept up to date. So be careful folks—don't catch a virus!

~ Phil Spooner

## Astonbury

Preparing the picnic and selecting a suitable accompanying 'libation' was Rita's and my prelude to Astonbury. However, the weather didn't look at all promising, so when Adrian phoned to say he had 'scrounged' a gazebo, I was more than willing to help put it up. We weren't alone! By mid afternoon 'tents' were springing up like mushrooms on a misty September morn. Clearly, nobody was going to miss Astonbury, no matter what the elements chose to throw at us. Rumour had it that folk from Aston Abbots were seen scouring all the local sources for gazebos and by 4.30 that Saturday afternoon, non were to be found in Aylesbury or Leighton Buzzard.

Helping set up in the afternoon gave me an excellent insight to the huge amount of work which goes into this show. All the equipment (stage included) has to be hauled down there, assembled and tested. The fact that Dave Lewis manages to connect up the seeming endless miles of cables and myriad black boxes whilst persuading the entire assemblage to produce the sound, is nothing 'short' of amazing. All in the wet and as far as we know, without actually electrocuting anyone.

Fortunately, just as the show was about to start the weather brightened and with it our spirits. Or was it that we started the wine early? Either way, for me, the first half had a special excitement of it's own since it involved the excellent talents of local young people. I'm sure Neil will be mentioning names, but what was astounding was the quality of the entertainment they were able to produce. Some were self taught and some attend Art/music colleges etc. yet all were amazingly talented. Not only were individual performances good but in almost every case they chose to play/sing unusual pieces which I found refreshing.

Andi Swain used his very own extroverted style to good effect as compere and opened the second half. The 'Cabaret team' immediately got the audience going with their own 60/70's 'routine'. As usual they all performed to their own individual, polished standard and it was particularly nice to see Lynn Manning appear on stage again. The party spirit took off both on and off stage and seemed to reach a climax with their rendition of 'It's raining Men'. Very appropriate since about then the heavens opened!

This was the second 'Astonbury' and yet again it was a truly great night. Open air concerts are always special and we are very privileged to have so much local talent enabling one to be held virtually on our doorstep. Not just any old doorstep though, but one as beautiful as the garden Anne and Dickie Dicken so generously allow to be used for Astonbury. By the way! Did you know that Anne is a 'Stones' fan!!!

And finally! Thanks must go to Neil Chesher who's idea this all was and who it seems took the 'lion's share' of the organisation.



And read Neil's own report of the day on page 13—Ed

# Fireworks!

Don't forget our annual fireworks display will take place early in November—Full details next month

## 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

**RICHARD CLARKE**

Maplewood, The Green ~ 681286

District Councillor

**PETER COOPER**

Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

County Councillor

**BRENDA JENNINGS**

25, The Green, Soulbury ~ 01525 270610

## THE CHRONICLE

### Advertising rates per annum

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

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

## HELP LINE...HELP LINE

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



**JOHN WHYTE**

14 Bricstock - tel. 681685

**GEORGE FOX**

1 Church Row - tel. 682024

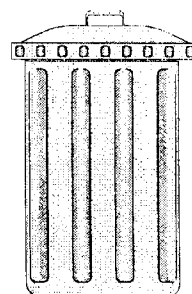
**TONY HINDS**

6 The Green - tel. 681454

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

## LOCAL RECYCLING

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



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## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor

Everybody needs good neighbours and we certainly have them in this neck of the woods.

Doris and I deeply and sincerely appreciate their many kindnesses to us during my recent hospitalisation:-

To Angela for transporting a cumbersome metal frame to No 28.

To Derek and Enid for keeping my garden in shape and conveying Doris back and forth to hospital and bringing me home.

To Charlie who is always prepared to help in any way.

To Andy, always ready for a chat and who visited me in hospital only to find me 'flat out' with tubes entering my body from all angles and decided not to wake me.

To Alex for plants to augment the trailing begonias which I raise each year as central display in my hanging baskets.

Thank you all.

*Jack and Doris Turner*

77 The Green  
Aston Abbots

12-08-01

Doris Scutchings would like to thank everyone who sent cards and letters on the recent sad death of my husband. Also for the generous donations to the British Heart Foundation. The sum of £500 has been sent, which included money from the plate in the Church.

Very many thanks,

*Doris Scutchings*

## Huntingdon

Like Astonbury, The August Bank Holiday coach trip to St. Ives and the Huntingdon races has become a 'must' on my calendar.

An 8.00am. start, but thanks to Pete Harvey's skill 'at the wheel' we were soon stopping at St. Ives for a jolly good breakfast and a trip around the huge street market; an entertainment in it's own right. Actually, following the 'mega' eggs & bacon, Bob Bean and I decided to have a walk around the older part of town and very attractive waterfront finding in the process a wonderfully unspoiled pub serving very nice 'malts'. A short drive away and lunch (liquid - what else?) at the delightful riverside pub at Holywell. Then, onto the racecourse some five miles away, just in time to see the horses parading out for the first race.

I'd like to say that the next few hours were as pleasant as the morning had been. However, apart from the knowledge that I've personally contributed to some poor bookmaker's family being fed and clothed for the next few months, the afternoon had little to commend it. Oh! Other than it was pleasantly warm in the sun and my horses did very little in the way of causing an intrusive draught as the limped their way around the course. A lovely day out ending with a convivial meal at 'The Bull'. Very many thanks to Tony Hinds for organising it all and we look forward to the next one.



## Food at The Bull

There was no grand opening or fanfare of trumpets to announce that the 'Bull' is once more doing food during weekday evenings (well, Wed. to Saturday evenings and Sunday lunch). Rita and I thought it was about time we tried the cuisine on offer, so one Wednesday evening in Aug. we popped along. It was fairly early but even so this was clearly one of the Bull's quieter evenings since apart from a rather furtive looking courting couple, we were the only ones there. The menu is not huge but covered a spread of all the usual pub grub. What was nice though was that although my favourite appetiser of garlic bread was not on the menu, Laura, the chef, without hesitation offered to make some once she knew it was being asked for. It was particularly nice too.

We chose respectively the 'home made' Chicken, ham and leek pie and the scampi. Both were served piping hot within some 15-20 minutes. Servings were nicely presented and sufficient to satisfy most people. The only down side of what was a pleasant meal was that for some reason no tartar sauce was available to accompany the scampi. The two meals cost something in the region of £15 which all things considered we felt was quite fair. OK! Eventually a few chums did come in for a drink or two so the entire evening was deemed to have been most enjoyable.



## Thanks to Paul & Vika Drysdale

A very big thank you to Paul And Vika from all 'the staff' at The Chronicle for your very generous donation to The Chronicle fund. It has now been passed to our Treasurer John Whyte.

With ever increasing production costs, such donations certainly assist greatly in ensuring our village magazine goes on being delivered free to each household in the parish and continues to be enjoyed by all.



## Newspaper Deliveries

If you have any problem with your papers please ring Andy on 681696 and not George as by the time I get back home to phone Andy he may have sold the last paper

~ George Fox.

## The Longmoor Lament

We live upon the edge of Aston Abbots,  
We're half-a-mile beyond the pale you see,  
We'd like to be considered village people  
But fear that simply never ain't to be!

Horses, bikes, and joggers pass us by.  
Village gossip doesn't come this far,  
We're wistful, sad, and feeling very lonely,  
It's half-a-mile to even reach the bar!

So spare a thought you lucky village people  
For we who languish half-a-mile away,  
We'd really like to be part of the party  
And seen as locals some far distant day.

Perhaps when we ye been here for twenty years  
(Eight years isn't long enough I know)  
We'll gain a tiny measure of acceptance  
Or half-a-mile will vanish as you grow...

~ Jean Sansome



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## A Perfect Day - The Fete Makes A Record £3118

At one point it looked like it might rain, it felt like it might rain, it even *smelt* like it might rain, but in the end it didn't and the weather was just perfect—not too hot and not too cold.

Michael Page of Oxleys Farm welcomed the huge crowds which flocked to enjoy our traditional fete and exhorted everybody to "dig deep" into their pockets. And that they did, producing the biggest profit we have ever made!

The Great Horwood Silver Band, the Aldbury Morris dancers and our own bell-ringers provided entertainment whilst the crowds thronged around the stalls.

This year the four fat blokes adopted a Hawaiian theme for the burger stall, but for the first time they faced competition from Poonam Gupta's onion bhajis. The picture on the right shows one fat bloke Ray Coates gently tending some fledgling Brian Burgers, an ever-popular favourite.

Lionel the train (pictured below) was a big draw for kids both big and small. Unfortunately this year some of the familiar children's rides were not present as the proprietor had another commitment for the date, but it is hoped to have them back next year.

Cream Teas served in the Church Room by Francesca Bean and her legion of hard-working helpers refreshed the thirsty visitors. Meanwhile the Draw, organised by Liz Barlow, raised over £1400. The Draw prize winners were:

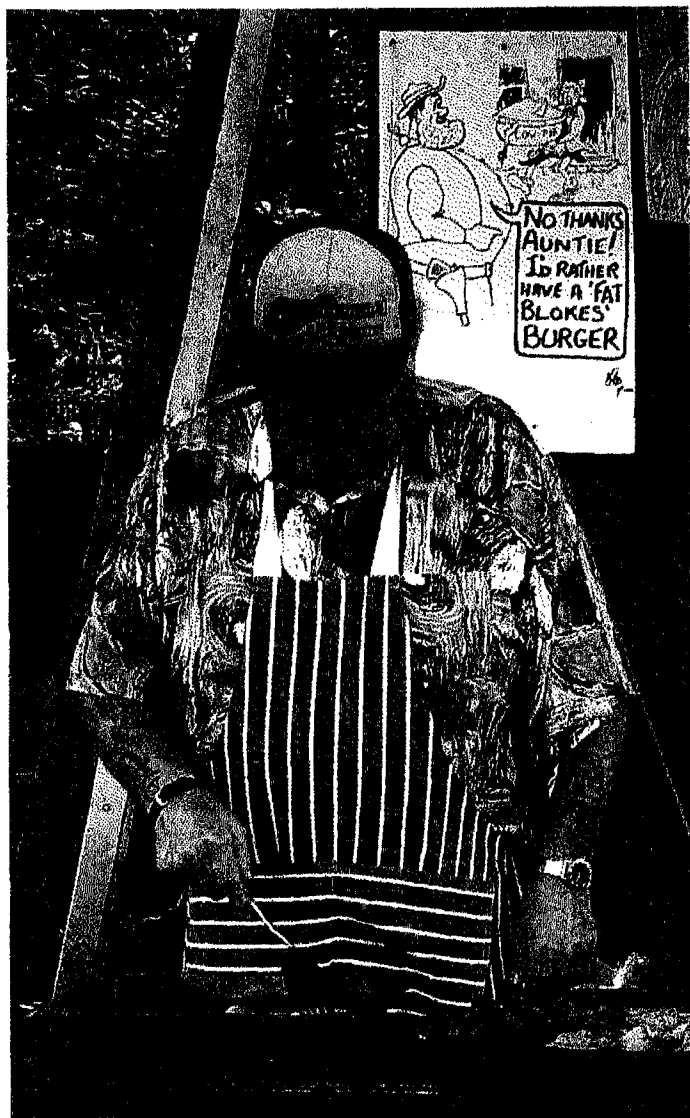
1	Tony Pridden	£200
2	John Allwood	Gliding Lesson
3	George Fox	Old Masters Voucher
4	Simon Roberts	Cushion
5	P Wicks	Food Hamper
6	David Watts	Bottle of Spirits
7	P Smith	Heritage Doll
8	S Seabury	Wine
9	Sheila Greenaway	Tin of Quality Street
10	Percy Humphries	Tin of Quality Street
11	Tom Manning	Tin of Celebrations

Just as the clouds started to look threatening the fete was broken down by the same team that had put it up: a few of the 630 club plus a couple of other volunteers and some very enthusiastic help from several of the village youngsters.

The Festival continued on Sunday, with the Church open so

that the floral displays could be seen and trips could be made to the top of the tower to view the Chilterns and the Vale of Aylesbury. It was not until then that the enormity of our success became truly apparent—a whopping £3118! Well done everybody—a perfect day indeed!!!!

~ Phil Spooner—pictures on this page by Ivan Greenaway



## Fete 2001—Accounts

This years fete raised much more money than has ever been raised by an Aston Abbots fete in the past. Many of you will be interested to see where the money came from—and where it is going to—so here we have reproduced the final accounts kindly prepared by Dickie Dicken.

### ASTON ABBOTTS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

#### VILLAGE FETE 21 JULY 2001

##### RECEIPTS

	£
DRAW	£1,413.60
TEAS	£229.17
BARBECUE	£264.81
STALLS	£232.92
Tombola	£128.80
Cakes etc	£176.85
Gardens	£61.00
Groceries	£265.56
Bric-a-brac	£50.00
Ice Cream	£161.85
Gifts	£132.70
Books	£135.87
Childrens	£72.75
Bharjis	£10.00
Crafts	£2.16
Bee Man	£7.00
Welsh cheese	
	<u>£3,345.04</u>
SIDESHOWS & COMPETITIONS	
Coconut shy	£96.00
Skittles	£67.91
Pony rides	£38.00
Lions	£30.00
DONATIONS	£160.00
CHURCH COLLECTING BOX	£28.25
	<u>£420.16</u>
<b><u>GROSS PROCEEDS</u></b>	<b><u>£3,765.20</u></b>

##### EXPENDITURE

Band	£105.00
Tea/Coffee	£50.00
Draw tickets & licence	£88.59
Draw prizes	£200.00
Mechanical Organ	£35.00
Advertising	£63.00
Morris Men	£60.00
Portable Sounds	£25.00
Retained Profit	£20.61
	<u>£647.20</u>

**NET PROCEEDS** 3,118.00

##### DISTRIBUTION

ST JAMES CHURCH	35.00%	£1091.30
CHURCH ROOM	52.50%	£1636.95
THE CHRONICLE	10%	£311.80
TODDLERS GROUP	2.50%	£77.95
		<u>£3118.00</u>

I must again voice my amazement at the stunning result this year. It really is a credit to the hard work put in by many people, not just on the day but also during the preceding weeks. To everybody who donated, contributed, helped or just came and enjoyed the day—thank you one and all. ~ Ed

## Louie Louie!

Sometimes I wonder if some of us take the Royal Oak rather for granted. Earlier in this issue we reported that the Bull has restarted serving food three nights a week, but let's not forget that Teri and Gary at the Royal Oak have been serving good food seven days a week—including lunchtimes—for years. We're very lucky to have two pubs serving food.

However, food at the 'Oak took on a new dimension a couple of months ago with the arrival of Louie, who has brought a French touch to the cooking there Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday lunchtime.

Louie varies his menu, but last time I was there starters included Tomato and Mozzarella salad, Moules Marinière, Garlic Mushrooms, Shell-on Garlic Prawns (yummy) and Melon in Port Wine. Some of the main courses on the menu were Rib Eye Steak (always popular, always large, always tender—comes with chips and salad, but available with potatoes and vegetables if you prefer), Whole Brill Grilled with Herbs, Grilled Chicken Breast stuffed with Cashew Nuts served with Orange Sauce (delicious according to Mrs Ed), and Duck Breast with Grape sauce. A big dish of freshly cooked vegetables accompanied our main courses: new potatoes, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, courgettes, and beans.

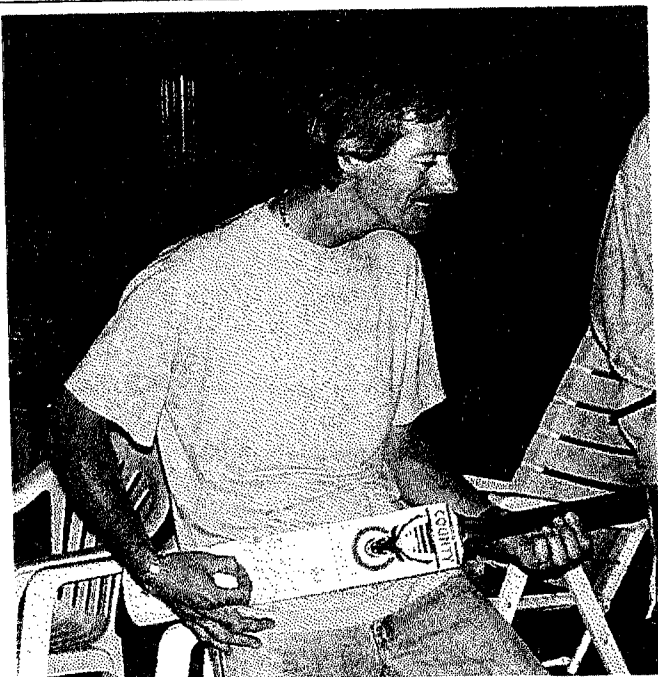
I can't speak for the deserts. The starter and main course portions are generous and we've never managed to get past them—and let me tell you that not wanting a desert is a bit of a novelty for Mrs Ed.

Prices for starters vary, with the mussels being perhaps the most expensive at £6.50. Main course prices vary from around £8.95 to £12.95 and as Louie's cooking has always been excellent we both feel that we get very good value for money.

I think we're really lucky to be able to get food of this quality in a village pub and if you haven't tried it you should get down the Royal Oak on a Friday or Saturday evening—you just don't know what you're missing.

~ Phil Spooner

PS. They can sometimes be busy at weekends, so you might want to book on 681262. Don't forget that although Louie is there only Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunchtime, Teri provides good food all week long.



## Recipe Of The Month

Back in '75, my brother, then aged 19 and a budding chef, decided to cook a meal for twenty-six relatives on a home stove on the occasion of my parents' silver wedding anniversary. There are some things about his rather ambitious menu that will remain engraved in my memory for all time, not least his starter, which was iced mint and cucumber soup. It would have been fine except that he went rather overboard on the chilli powder as he didn't realise that, when cool, its power was somewhat enhanced. I have to confess that I rather enjoyed it, as did my father, however the complaints from the under twelve's were deafening. As you can imagine, by the time he started getting requests for Beef Bourguignonne, *without gravy*, the normally placid lad rather lost his rag.

So when faced with a surfeit of cucumbers from the greenhouse I did seriously wonder what to do with them. A weekend in Amsterdam didn't give me any (culinary) ideas, so I tried out the following recipe for Cream of Cucumber Soup. Served warm, it has a rather delicate flavour and was pronounced to be absolutely delicious by even the doubters in our household. You might like to add one or two drops of green food colouring, to bring out the palest green hue. I really do recommend that you try it out.

Ingredients (to serve six, time taken 1 hour):

2 large cucumbers	Freshly milled pepper
½ onion	1oz butter
200 ml milk	1 bay leaf
Pinch sugar	½ oz butter
1 teaspoon flour	Salt
300 ml chicken stock	4 tablespoons cream

This is what you do:

Peel cucumbers, slice in half lengthways and remove centre seeds. Slice thinly and blanch in boiling water for 2 minutes and drain well. Melt 1oz butter in saucepan, add the cucumber, sugar and a seasoning of salt and pepper. Cover with a lid and cook gently for about 15 minutes or until the cucumber is quite soft.

Meanwhile prepare the white sauce, which is used to thicken the soup. Put the milk, onion and bay leaf into a saucepan. Bring to the boil, then draw off the heat and leave to infuse for 10 minutes. Melt the ½ oz of butter in a small pan, and stir in the flour. Bring to the boil, stirring all the time, and cook gently for 2-3 minutes. Add the chicken stock and the prepared white sauce to the cucumbers. Cover the pan and cook gently for a further 15 minutes. Draw the pan off the heat and puree in a liquidiser or blender. Return the soup to the saucepan. Check the seasoning and reheat. Stir in the cream just before serving.

~ Nigel Palmer

The picture on the left shows Lol Hinds performing ZZ Top's Tush on cricket bat at this year's Brookie Barbie, which took place on August Bank Holiday Sunday.

A little splattering of light rain failed to dampen the spirits, or prevent the game of cricket going ahead, and a fine time was had by all. All reports of your editor's bowling abilities have been suppressed and the only two comments I recall were from Peter Shorrocks—"Am I correct in thinking you weren't in the First Eleven when you were at school?"—and Lol—"The worst bowling I have ever seen in my life!". Many thanks to Liz and Ivan for a great day.

~ Phil Spooner

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# Astonbury 2001

*Astonbury is enjoyed by many, but takes place only through the hard work and dedication of a small band of people. Here musical director, performer and instigator Neil Chesher takes us behind the scenes and tells us what it was like from the other side of the stage.*

Some say we had luck, some say we had a direct line above. Astonbury 2001 seemed to be coming towards us on a band of good weather and then at the last moment the forecasts said .....rain! The team talked over what we should do and the judgement was that we go with it—there was no plan B. If we had torrential rain or lightning then we would just cancel.

So Stage Manager Bob Bean got the team together and persuaded some people (who had not checked with the weather forecast) to part with their Gazebo. (Thanks Jeff and Mandy. So much for the Met courses on observance!)

Peter Knight rumbled into sight with tractor and trailer and the staging (or what had been spared by the destructive kids) was loaded up. The stage was chocked and levelled enough to create only a mini ski slope, Dave's sound cabin was secured to the side of the hill, cable streamed alongside the duck pond, lights in trees and the sound checks were just starting when the rain started.

Better leave it for a while and try again seems to be the fliers maxim (Dave says). However we left it so long that we could not finish all of the sound checks and to know which cable went to which microphone. Then as we were going home to dry out, there was Tommy Manning saying his band had to cry off. No crisis, no panic.

Got back at about 6.46 pm and it was dry—someone was smiling on us. The lawn looked like Gazebo city, but very determined people were arriving and they were going to party and have a good time no matter what the weather.

Liz Barlow was fleecing people for the Fete raffle as their price of entry. Wip Lash had arrived and it took some time to get them sorted out and ready, mostly because they had to rewrite the words to their song, but they got the show off to a good start with 4 numbers including 2 Beautiful South numbers. So we were in full swing with a Donna and Haley duet, then with Haley singing 'Torn' (which we had never rehearsed). Good version though and well done.

Anthony Palmer brought some class to the occasion by 4 cello numbers which all sounded very familiar and later on after a very complex drum solo Christina Tomlin appeared and gave it large with 2 numbers including a memorable version of 'Power of Love'. Donna sang a very sexy bluesy song called 'Black Velvet' that seemed to get compere Andi Swain overexcited, considering how he acted for the rest of the night. That man is mental.... but an excellent compere who simply drove the evening along on his self inflicted tide of energy and abuse. Good on yer, Swain.

Everyone laughed when Gerry and the 'Atricks sang 'Summer Holiday' and then 'Night of a 1000 Pies'. Lambchop (what is his real name?) bid the highest for the trip to the Houses of Parliament and the MP chat-up. Well done Mr Lambchop, but

also Andi for keeping the auction going.

So onto the second Half with Gerry and his mates opening with 'Rocking all over the world' followed by some other good 60's numbers. This led into the first appearance of Lyn Manning singing 'Well alright, OK you win', backed an ageing keyboard player and two arthritic backing singers. Up to this time Frank was quiet, but that was probably because he had his mother with him and nobody had told him there were Gypsies in the pub.

John Whyte and John Brancker did an Everly's section backed by Tony, Nigel and myself. Then the High Rolling Tottie, of Sharon and Anne bounced into the night with 'My Boy Lollipop'... and so you all started bopping. The night had grown dark so it was time to bring out the CodFather... Tony Rees. He says he performs better in the dark. We think he means singing! Van Morrison's 'Have I told you lately' wafted across the lawn followed by Bruce Springstein's 'Born to Run' and then later Robert Palmer's 'Addicted to Love'. Great performance!

The Wilko family hit us with the 'Shoop Shoop song' and then Whitey led us into 'Suspicious minds'. We were totally agog when we started into 'Sex Bomb' that all these bra's came hurtling out of the darkness and onto the stage. I definitely saw a 38DD go by! (Let me know who you are.) What a great moment for us.

Well, the night was going really well, people up dancing, then the High Rolling Tottie did Da Doo Ron Ron, a real hooligan song, but not as hooligan as 'Raining Men'. All the girls singing, lungs bursting, such volume, great anthem ..... and then the rain began! I thought everyone would run for cover, but no, there they all were, dancing in the rain. Hairdos gone, mascara running in some cases, but having a serious good time. The only thing we missed to do was to have a wet tee shirt competition. [I'm not sure I want to see the Johns Whyte and Brancker in wet tee shirts myself, but each to his own. . . Ed]

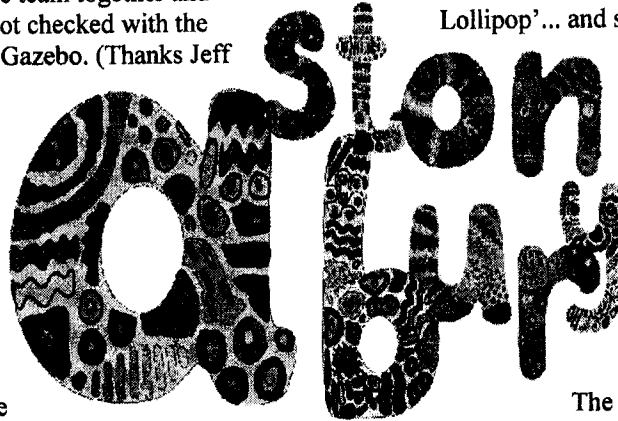
Interesting thing was that as the stage Gazebo came over it made the actual stage much smaller so it was really rather cosy and I'm trying frantically to keep the rain out of my key board Whitey did a second Tom Jones number with 'Delilah' then we ended on the Turtles' 'Happy Together'.

Andi Swain wound up the proceeding with thanks to everyone who had made it all work and we ended the show with Manfred Mann's 'Doo Wah Diddy'. Every one dancing, everyone singing. What a great night! Thanks to all of you that were there. Thanks to all the singers, bands and players. Thanks for your support and the fact that you braved the rain, but big *big* thanks to the Dickens and the Dewhursts for allowing us to use their lawn once again.

I went straight to the pub but I understand the dancing went onto midnight with Lol and Dave in charge. For me, I was knackered for 3 days afterwards and swore never again. Nigel..... you did say you would... didn't you?

~ Neil Chesher

*Astonbury raised around £1000, the bulk of which has been given to the Church Room Fund ~ Ed*



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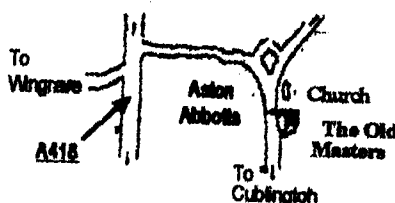
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# Looking After Your Home

## THAMES VALLEY POLICE



### Police Advice

Following last month's article about going on holiday, this month concentrates on the overall security of your house.

A lot of burglaries can be prevented. Most are committed by opportunist thieves, and in two burglaries out of ten, the thief does not have to force his way in because a door or window has been left open. Make sure you lock all doors and windows, even if you are only going out for five minutes. A simple test of your security - if you locked yourself out of your house, would you be able to get in easily. If the answer is yes - then so would a burglar. A small outlay will, in many cases, make your home much more secure - and buy peace of mind into the bargain!

### Doors

Make sure you have five lever mortice deadlocks fitted to the front and rear doors, a deadlock can only be opened with a key, so a thief cannot smash a nearby glass panel to open the door from the inside. (All DIY shops will advise you regarding what a five lever mortice deadlock looks like).

### Windows

You will find all DIY shops sell inexpensive key-operated locks to fit all kinds of windows.

### Patio Doors

You need to fit locks, to the top and bottom of the doors.

### Spare Keys

Never leave a spare key in a hiding place like

under a doormat, in a flower pot or inside the letterbox - thief will look there first.

### Garages and Sheds

Never leave a garage or shed unlocked, especially if the garage has a connecting door to the house. Lock all tools and ladders away so that a thief cannot use them to break in.

### Burglar Alarms

If your possessions are worth a lot of money or you live in an area with a lot of burglaries, you should consider a burglar alarm. Ranging from inexpensive DIY kits to sophisticated systems costing hundreds of pounds, there are scores of burglar alarms on the market. Get specialist advice and a number of quotes. Consult your insurance company for the companies they recommend.

### Lighting

Good lighting can deter a thief. Some exterior lights have light sensors or an infra-red sensor that switches the light on for a short time when it detects something in its range.

If you have these locks, and an alarm fitted, please use them at all times.

Finally, although we do not live in a high risk area, please do not be complacent about security to your home. If you wish to discuss anything relating to this article or any other matters, please contact me on the telephone number below.

PC Mike Buckle, Wing Police Office,  
Telephone no: 01296 396163

## News from Wingrave Stores

Or more Trials and tribulations from a shopkeeper!  
"Phew!!" Finished at last... The new look is now in place and all the hard work is over, or has it just begun?

The Fun Day on Saturday 28th July was a great success with lots of prizes awarded and some great colouring from the children. Bertie Bassett and the Bucks Herald Bunny did a great job although they did feel the heat. The lucky winner of the Lucozade mountain bike was Kyle Smith aged seven and a half. He will be presented with his prize shortly.

We have had some teething problems with the in-store bakery - the enormous brand new bread freezer broke down four days after delivery, and took two weeks to be replaced. Hopefully these problems are now resolved and the aroma of freshly baked bread will waft through the village *every* morning!

The cash machine is also proving popular with customers, as are the special offers which change every three weeks - look out for a leaflet coming through your door!

We hope that everyone likes the new look, it certainly makes working here easier and if you haven't seen it yet, why not?

~ Andy and Helen Hall

## Wingrave Junior Drama

Once again we are very fortunate to have Paul Megram running the Junior Drama.

The group meets at the Community Centre on Thursdays, 4.00pm - 6.00pm for 7-9 year olds and from 6.00pm - 8.00pm for the 10-13 age group.

Cost is £2.00 per session.

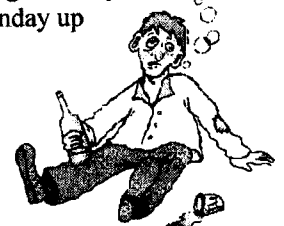
Dates for Autumn Term are 20th September, 27th September, 4th October, 11th October, 1st November, 8th November, 15th November, 22nd November & 29th November

## Sotally Tober

Starkle starkle little twink  
who the hell you are I think  
I'm not under what you call  
the alcofluence of incohol

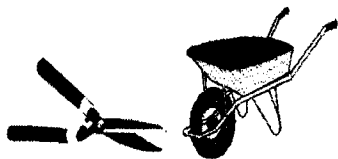
I'm just a little slort of sheep  
I'm not drunk like tinkle peep  
I don't know who is me yet  
but the drunker I stand here  
the longer I get

Just give me one more drink  
to fill me cup  
'cuz I got all day sober  
to Sunday up



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# Parish Council

You lot may all have been away on your summer hols, but the Parish Council have been busy beavering away on our behalf during the summer. Many thanks to Kate Curry for three reports. Two of the reports are on normal PC meetings and one is a report on the extraordinary meeting convened to discuss the planning application on Home Farm.

## 27th June 2001

U nofficial minutes from the meeting held on 27th June 2001  
The meeting was chaired by Cllr John Sansome. Apologies were received from county Cllr Brenda Jennings and PC Mike Buckle, and four members of the public attended. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.

### Co-Option Of New Councillor

The P.C. has now complied with the law regarding advertising the casual vacancy for a Councillor, following the resignation of Cllr. Linda Sutton. Richard Clarke is willing to stand, and it was unanimously resolved to co-opt him as the new Councillor. Richard was welcomed onto the council, and signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

### Comments From The Floor.

Mr. Higgs commented that the wheelie bin in the children's play area on the Rec. is full and smelling, and asked who is responsible for emptying it. The Clerk agreed to contact AVDC to find out if they will collect the bin from there rather than from the road. It was reported that the window in the bus shelter in Wingrave Road is broken, and the notice board on the other shelter needs repairs.

### County Council And District Council

District Councillor Peter Cooper apologised to the meeting for the poor and erratic street cleaning and grass cutting services being provided by AVDC this year, saying they have been having problems with the contractors.

### Planning

- Land at Moat Lane: The landowners have appealed against the Council's refusal of the planning application for bungalows. The PC has written to reiterate the

original objections and has asked to be notified of the decision in due course.

- The PC has not yet received the plans for Home Farm, although Peter Cooper had a copy, which he left with us. Assuming the plans do arrive this week, a meeting to discuss them was provisionally arranged for Monday 9th July. Members of the public will be welcomed.

### Highways

It was noted that work is being carried out on various roads around the village, it seems as a direct result of the (now infamous!) meeting with County Councillor Brenda Jennings and her subsequent 'walking' of the local roads.

### Recreation Ground

The grass mowing is not being done to a satisfactory standard or on a regular enough basis. It will continue to be closely monitored. The vandalised shed in the children's play area can be removed now the ground is harder. Hopefully this can be arranged in the near future.

### Responsible Dog Ownership

Bylaws are now in force which mean dog owners can be fined up to £1000 for allowing their dogs to foul in public places. Signs will be put up around the village, and the Clerk will ask Bernard whether the shop would be willing to hold a store of 'poop-scoops'.

The Accounts were read and signed and correspondence circulated, and the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Next meeting is on Wednesday 1st August at 8pm in the Church Room. Everyone is welcome to come along.

~ Kate Curry

## 27th June 2001—Home Farm Planning Application

U nofficial minutes of extraordinary parish council meeting held in the Church room on Monday 9th July 2001

### Planning

a) Application 01/01458/APP Home Farm, The Green, Aston Abbots. Erection of three dwellings with garaging, with existing barn to be used as garaging for plot 1.

The Parish Council agreed to make following comments:

1. The proposed access to the site is already used by two farms, and this will not mix well with the increased domestic traffic.
2. The access road is too narrow to accommodate the extra traffic that would be generated, and it would not be visually acceptable as defined by the Local Plan and conditions applicable to the Conservation area.
3. The roof height of the proposed development would be out of scale with surrounding properties.

4. Loss of natural environment and habitat.
5. The wall dividing the orchard from the proposed development should not be destroyed, as this would spoil the special character of this part of the Conservation area.
6. There is at present a dutch barn on the site, which is not shown on any of the plans and does not feature in any of the proposals.

b) Application 01/01459/ACD Home Farm, The Green, Aston Abbots. Demolition of redundant outbuildings.

After consideration the Parish Council had no comment to make on the above application.

~ Kate Curry

The third Parish Council report is on page 19

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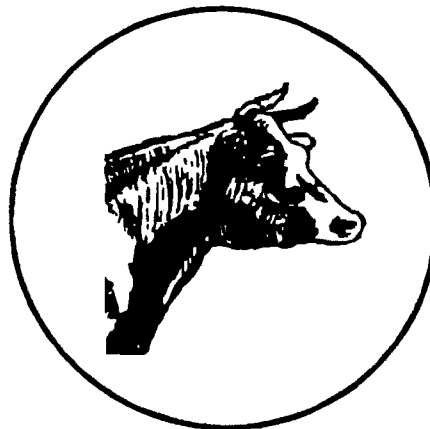


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# Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 1st August 2001

The meeting was chaired by Cllr John Sansome. Apologies were received from Cllr. Margaret Kent, District Cllr Peter Cooper and PC Mike Buckle, and three members of the public attended.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Highways have now been notified that the P.C. agrees to the placing of some new kerbstones on The Green outside The Abbey. The refuse collectors should now be emptying the wheelie bin on the Rec.

## Comments From The Floor

It was noted that the electricity supply has been disconnected from one of the streetlights in Wingrave Road following a traffic accident.

## County Council And District Council Matters

County Cllr Brenda Jennings informed the meeting that the new "Cabinet" structure for the County Council is now in operation.

There was discussion regarding the poor state of the local roads, particularly overgrown hedgerows obstructing visibility. Cllr Jennings asked for a list of the worst areas. The problem of ragwort was also discussed.

## Highways

A hole has appeared in the grass on The Green - this has been caused by tree roots and needs filling with soil in the autumn. The new bus stop markings were discussed, there being some doubt whether they are in the correct place.

## Church Room

Cllr. Manning updated the meeting on the current situation regarding the lease and possible sources of funding for the Church Room extension.

## Accounts

The Clerk presented the annual accounts for year ended 4.4.2001. They were accepted by the Council, and signed.

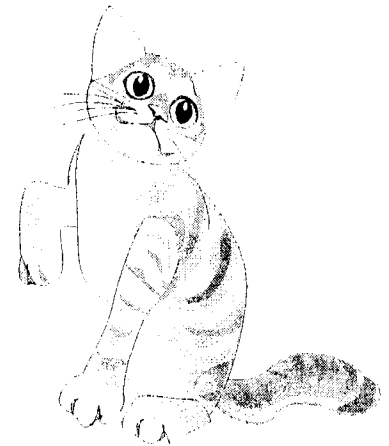
Next meeting is on Wednesday 12th September at 8pm in the Church Room. Everyone is welcome to come along.

~ Kate Curry

## How To Medicate Your Cat

*This month The Chronicle presents a special money saving tip. Why spend money on expensive vet bills when you can just pop a pill down your cat's throat yourself in the comfort of your own home.*

1. Pick cat up and cradle it in the crook of your left arm as if holding a baby. Position right forefinger and thumb on either side of cat's mouth and gently apply pressure to cheeks while holding pill in right hand. As cat opens mouth, pop pill into mouth. Allow cat to close mouth and swallow.
2. Retrieve pill from floor and cat from behind sofa. Cradle cat in left arm and repeat process.
3. Retrieve cat from bedroom, and throw soggy pill away.
4. Take new pill from foil wrap, cradle cat in left arm holding rear paws tightly with left hand. Force jaws open and push pill to back of mouth with right forefinger. Hold mouth shut for a count of 10.
5. Retrieve pill from goldfish bowl and cat from top of wardrobe. Call spouse from garden.
6. Kneel on floor with cat wedged firmly between knees, holding front and rear paws. Ignore low growls emitted by cat. Get spouse to hold cat's head firmly with one hand while forcing wooden ruler into mouth. Drop pill down ruler and rub cat's throat vigorously.
7. Retrieve cat from curtain rail, get another pill from foil wrap. Make note to buy new ruler and repair curtains. Carefully sweep shattered figurines from hearth and set to one side for gluing later.
8. Wrap cat in large towel and get spouse to lie on cat with its head just visible from below spouse's armpit. Put pill in end of drinking straw, force cat's mouth open with pencil and blow down drinking straw.
9. Check label to make sure pill not harmful to humans, drink glass of water to take taste away. Apply Band-Aid to spouse's forearm and remove blood from carpet with cold water and soap.
10. Retrieve cat from neighbour's shed. Get another pill. Place cat in cupboard and close door onto neck to leave head showing. Force mouth open with dessert spoon. Flick pill down throat with elastic band.
11. Fetch screwdriver from garage and put door back on hinges. Apply cold compress to cheek and check records for date of last tetanus shot. Throw T-shirt away and fetch new one from bedroom.
12. Ring fire brigade to retrieve cat from tree across the road. Apologise to neighbour who crashed into fence while swerving to avoid cat. Take last pill from foil wrap.
13. Tie cat's front paws to rear paws with garden twine and bind tightly to leg of dining table. Find heavy duty pruning gloves from shed. Force cat's mouth open with small spanner. Push pill into mouth followed by large piece of fillet steak. Hold head vertically and pour 1/2 pint of water down throat to wash pill down.
14. Get spouse to drive you to hospital Accident and Emergency department; sit quietly while doctor stitches fingers and forearm and removes pill remnants from right eye. Stop by furniture shop on way home to order new table.
15. Take cat to Vet.



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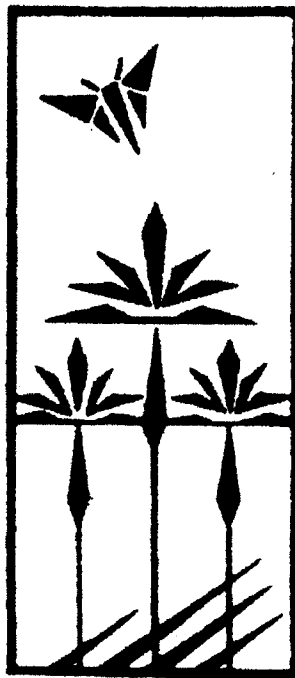
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# ASTON ABBOTTS

# AUCTION



**In a marquee at The Old Master's Restaurant**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Doors & bar open at 12 midday**

**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.

Plans are now well advanced for this exciting event - as far as we know, the first auction of its kind to be held in Aston Abbots - and all the profits will go towards the renovation and extension of the Parish Hall, aka. the Church Room. We have been granted planning permission for the improvements but we need to get the foundations of the extension laid soon or the planning permission will go beyond its time limit and we will have to apply all over again. The foundations will cost in the region of £15,000 and we have to date raised £9,675.47. So we need to make this auction a real humdinger of a success to take us over the amount we need to start the project rolling. (And, yes, we will be applying for grants from the lottery, local authorities etc.)

So, *why not invite friends* from outside the village to join you. Give Liz Barlow a ring on 682605 or fill in the relevant form over the page and take it to her at 1 Nash's Farm. **Book your tickets now before they all go.** Entry by ticket only. Tickets cost £6 (cash or cheques payable to Aston Abbots Parish Hall Fund at the time of booking please). Included in the price are a hot meal and a glass of wine (more liquid refreshment available at your own expense) - all that and a good deal of entertainment when we auction some pretty attractive items and some rather unusual promises. For example:

Promises so far received include:

- ◆ A load of horse manure ◆ A week's bed and breakfast in Portugal
- ◆ Transport to and from an airport ◆ Dinner party deserts
- ◆ Hand sewn, interlined curtains made in your own fabric
- ◆ The making of a will ◆ A ride in a Ferrari.

Items donated to the 50/50 auction include:

- ◆ A Hermes headscarf ◆ 7.5m of top quality curtain fabric
- ◆ Appliqué cushions ◆ Flower arrangements ◆ A rocking chair

You can see how much variety (and scope for hilarity) there will be!

So, have a good think about what you can donate. This is the perfect opportunity for you to rid yourself of that unwanted, still unused present that has been taking up valuable space in the cupboard/loft/garage - and get 50% of however much it makes at auction. Or perhaps there is something you could offer to do for someone - walk their dog for a week, do some ironing, decorate a room - there must be something you could offer. It's easy to enter - just fill in one of the forms over the page and give it to Clare Shorrocks at Oak Farm House.

# ASTON ABBOTTS AUCTION

**In a marquee at The Old Master's Restaurant  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October from midday onwards**

## Programme

- 12:00 Doors and bar open. Viewing starts
- 1:00 50/50 Auction
- 2:00 Lunch
- 3:00 Promises Auction

*Book now to avoid disappointment*

---

Name (printed) ..... Phone no:.....  
Address.....  
I would like .....tickets for the Aston Abbotts Auction at £6 each and enclose a cheque for £.....  
made payable to Aston Abbotts Village Hall Fund.  
Signed.....

-----  
Name (printed) ..... Phone no:.....  
Address.....  
I would like to promise to .....  
.....(brief description)  
Signed.....

-----  
Name (printed) ..... Phone no:.....  
Address.....  
I would like to auction.....  
.....(brief description of object)  
Signed.....

---

## Jottings From The Chalk Face

A while ago I explained how complex and time consuming the role of the ICT Co-ordinator had become. Some ways forward, all of which we either have explored or are exploring, include:-

1. Buying in the using the LEA support This is as close to the old days as possible- The staff know the schools and the work is invariably well done and closely in line with the latest regulations, They offer super courses for the teachers, including in many cases, NOF training.
2. Buying in the services of an outside agency. Can be helpful but is very expensive.
3. Enlisting the support of the hardware supplier This can be technically sound, and the advice can be constructive, but often is restricted to the machines purchased from them. Staff training opportunities can be limited.
4. Clusters of schools sharing a technician. This sounds good in theory but there are many problems in reality.

New horizons were found when the NGFL was launched and primary schools began considering how they were best going to incorporate ICT as a key part of the school curriculum, Some schools have established, or are establishing, ICT sites: others have opted to expand computer use within classrooms. The curriculum has been shaken: not only is the teaching of good ICT skills more vital than ever, not least in the early years, but across the curriculum thought is being given as to how the expansion of primary ICT can promote and enhance different subjects in new ways, This itself has given rise to software considerations: no longer is the "software for kids" and ideal

solution to all curricular requirements, nor will it satisfy the developing skills of the children after several years of regular use. The monitoring and assessment of ICT has been given new thought and is posing new problems. It is a period of great change, and it is time in which the ICT enthusiast has the opportunity to have a bigger impact than ever.

Beyond that, schools are compelled to consider their ICT future in light of the NOF training plans. Gone are the days when the title "IT co-ordinator" was an add-on to somebody's portfolio of areas of responsibility and when the technical bits were not all that vital. From the days of the Acorn in the corner of most classrooms (a machine that was so robust that children who had not been born when the machine left the factory are, in many schools, still using them today) the computer age has brought change, There has been the arrival of the PC as the major format of computers in most schools at the same time as the expansion of primary school networks and a wide use of the Internet. Each of these factors brings new technical hurdles. PCs, by their nature, have a complex operating system, a factor compounded by the use of a network. Beyond this, the Internet brings about periodic problems.

This new age of computers in primary school potentially has massive benefits for both teaching and learning; it is no exaggeration to say that it could revolutionise education- But schools need to consider how their valuable technology can be both maintained and well used- These considerations need to be incorporated into schools' financial planning and in defining the role of the ICT co-ordinator.

~ Baird McClellan

## 1<sup>st</sup> Wingrave Brownies

End of Term A busy summer term finished with the annual swimming meeting at Windmill Hill Farm. Unlike previous years the weather was not fine and warm but wet and windy.

This did not deter the Brownies who enjoyed a good splash in the rain. The meeting ended with drink and biscuits and a warm up in the kitchen. We said a goodbye and thank you to Jose Ricketts, Tawny Owl. Jose has been with us for eight years, we will miss her very much but I'm pleased that she will still be able to support us on an occasional basis.

Volunteer Required. Our Brownie pack is overflowing so we do need the support of another adult to become a trained Guider. The main requirement is enthusiasm. You do not need to be a parent or have had any previous links with Guiding. The training is well organised and most of it is done on the job over a period of about 6 months.

The work itself is very rewarding as the children are all very enthusiastic and because we are not fixed to any rigid programme there is always the opportunity to try out new ideas. The time commitment is for 2 hours on a Tuesday plus some other time in the week for planning and preparation. There are occasional District Guider meetings which are useful to attend and some County based training.

If you would like to know more or would be willing to join please contact me. I am quite happy to have several offers, the stronger the leadership team the easier the job is all round.

~ Jane Muir Brown Owl Windmill Hill Farm Tel:-681513  
janefdmuir@btinternet.com

## 1st Wingrave Guides

The summer term as usual was busy with outdoor activities. As well as two weekend camps, time was also spent cooking, sailing, climbing and team activities at Green Park. In fact there were so many activities we were seldom at our home base at MacIntyre.

For the Autumn term we shall be meeting at the Community Centre. Change in use of the MacIntyre rooms has necessitated the move but they have still offered use of their grounds for the summer term.

Our first meeting is on Monday 10th September.

If anyone between the age of 10 and 13 years is interested in joining Guides please let me know.

~ Jane Muir 681513 janefdmuir@btinternet.com

A man goes to the doctor. He has a carrot sticking out of his left ear, a cucumber sticking out of his right ear, and spaghetti hanging from his nostrils.

Man : "What's wrong with me?"

Doctor : "You're not eating properly."

The psychiatrist's secretary walks into his study and says, "Mr. Black is in the waiting room asking to see you again. This time he claims he's invisible."

The psychiatrist responds, "Tell him I can't see him."

Statistics are like a bikini. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital. ~ Aaron Levenstein

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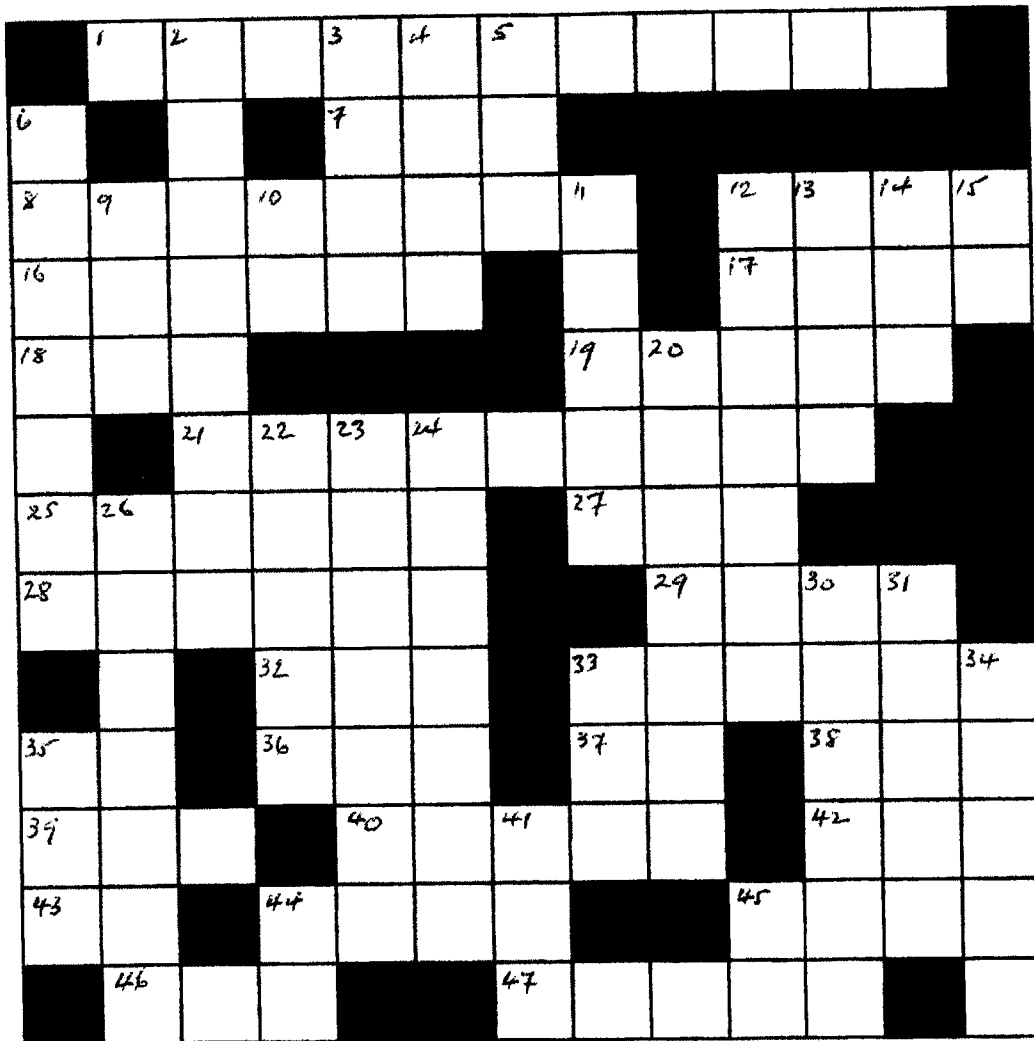
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# The Chronicle Crossword

September 2001



**Answers to July/Aug:**

**ACROSS:** 1&6 Aston Clinton. 11 Myopia. 12. Awe. 13 Aspen. 14 Ignoble. 7 Stereo. 19 Oil. 20 SE. 21 Pebble. 23 Master, 26 Aid. 30 Ore. 31 Etude. 33 Beta. 35 Emu. 36 En. 37 Dust. 39 Treat. 41 At. 42 On. 43 Earn. 44 EH. 43 Might. 48 NI. 49 Mass. 50 ETA. 51 Once. 52 Nylon. 53 Ashes.

**DOWN:** 1. Amass. 2 System. 3 Topo. 4 Operas. 5 Nine. 7 Leg. 8 Tableau. 9 Owl. 10 Need. 15 Nobleman. 16 Oil. 18 Operate. 22 Ere. 24 Albs. 25 Tot. 27 Ideals. 28 Dentists. 29 Abdomen. 32 Tut. 34 Etch. 35 Eerie. 38 Unity. 40 Ranch. 44 Each. 46. Gal. 47 Ton.

**ACROSS:**

- 1. Nearby town (11)
- 7. Hearing organ (3)
- 8. NEAT DENT (anag 8)
- 12. Cease (4)
- 16. Pamphlets (6)
- 17. Oh dear! (4)
- 18. Consume (3)
- 19. Toe ailments (5)
- 21. Large animals (9)
- 25. Civil force (6)
- 27. Garland (3)
- 28. Elizabeth ---(6)
- 29. Loch ---(4)
- 32. Boy's name (3)

**DOWN:**

- 33. Rot; turn septic (6)
- 35. Manuscript (2)
- 36. Sebastion --- (3)
- 37. 3rd sing of verb BE
- 38. Number (3)
- 39. Unit of current (3)
- 40 School exams (abb 5)
- 42. Here & --- (3)
- 43. Father (colloq. 2)
- 44. Group of binary digits (4)
- 45. Chocolate bar (4)
- 46. Born (3)
- 47. Prepare, modify (5)

**DOWN:**

- 2. Elaborately adorned 8
- 3. Shelter (4)
- 5. ERA (anag 3)
- 6. Try (7)
- 9. Period of time (3)
- 11. CLAUD (anag 5)
- 12. TIS SORE (anag 7)
- 13. Units of weight (4)
- 14. Short operation (3)
- 15. Postscript (2)
- 20. Unity (7)
- 22. Flowering shhrub (5)
- 23. Study of people with their environment (7)

**DOWN:**

- 24. Ideal (7)
- 26. Rower (7)
- 30. Pebbles (6)
- 31. Spaniard (5)
- 33. Expressing shame, disgust (3)
- 34. Retaken (5)
- 35. Atlas (3)
- 41. Observe (3)
- 44. Verb (2)
- 45. Expressing position (2)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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## Rectors Report

There was a bit of a do in the papers the other day about a vicar who wouldn't allow the hymns that a couple had chosen to have sung at their wedding. His complaint was that they were not suitable hymns to have at weddings.

That seemed to me to be a very strange attitude – because, so far as I know, there are very few hymns that are actually suitable. On the whole hymns, if they speak about relationships at all, speak about our relationship with God. There are very few that are about our relationships with other people – and particularly not the close relationship and harmony that marriage entails.

There are, of course, the well-known “joke” wedding hymns – like “Fight the good fight” - without which no wedding is complete! My father used to tell of an acquaintance of his who was marrying for the second time. His wedding included the hymn “Breathe on me breathe of God – fill me with life anew!”.

Couples who decide to marry around Christmas time frequently decide to sing carols at their service. I have no objection – although I do point out that nearly all the carols speak about the birth of a child – which may not be terribly appropriate on such an occasion.

I suppose the chief criterion is “singability” – people want to sing things that they know and

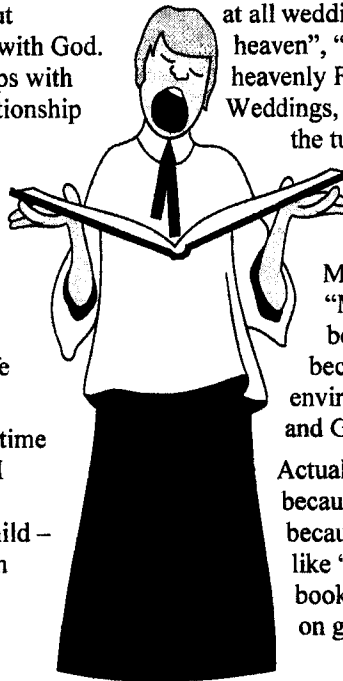
like. Yet even that is beginning to pose a problem. For the repertoire of known hymns is shrinking very rapidly as more and more schools no longer have hymns at Morning Assembly (that is if they even still have the “daily act of religious worship” required by the Education Act).

Many years ago there were three hymns that seemed to be sung at all weddings. They were: “Praise, my soul, the King of heaven”, “Love divine all loves excelling”, and “Lead us heavenly Father, lead us”. Following one of the Royal Weddings, the singing of Psalm 23 in the metrical version to the tune “Crimond” became popular, although hymns like “O perfect love, all human thoughts transcending”, and “The voice that breathed o'er Eden” were sung occasionally.

More recent trends have seen the introduction of “Morning has broken”, and “All things bright and beautiful”. This is an interesting development, because it focuses thought on Creation and the environment rather than on the relationship between us and God.

Actually, I am not very fond of “Jerusalem” – not because of its words, nor because of its tune, but simply because it is not easy to sing! But, on the basis that it, like “I vow to thee, my country”, it is in the hymn book, I can see no reason why anyone should reject it on grounds of suitability.

~ Bob Willmott



## 1st Wingrave Scout Group—September

It has been an action packed time for all sections and a season of change too.

### Beavers

We ended term with a party to say “au revoir” to Julie McMahon who is off to U.S.A. for a year. We wish the whole family a wonderful trip and look forward to welcoming them back this time next year.

In the meantime Beavers continue to be run by Jan Antiosewicz, who is being helped by Fran Pollard.

### Cubs and Scouts

The last few weeks of term were mostly spent in preparation for camp. Learning how to pitch and strike a tent, how to behave inside it, to look after it and how not to get wet clothes.

The boys all stencilled their own T-shirt to wear on camp outings, the Cubs made an entrance for “villa rustica”.

Camp, held at Youlbury, near Oxford, was wonderful, we were lucky enough to have near perfect weather and all the boys enjoyed a wide range of activities, (Cubs based on a Roman theme, the Scouts on a patrol camp), including: Wall-climbing, Swimming, “Project x”, Rifle shooting/Archery, visit to a Roman ruin. They took part in site activities-Scavenger hunt, Pushball game, Camp fire, the Cubs even had a Toga party!

Cubs and Scouts don't often camp at the same time, but without a permanent Leader there wasn't any other way for the Scouts to camp.

At the end of camp Akela Fran Pollard took her last “Grand

howl!” as leader of the Cub section, leadership has now passed to Nikki Reeve our new Akela.

A party was held at the Scout hut on Saturday 11th August to welcome all the parents to a social evening and to say thank you to everyone who has helped to sort out our headquarters, but in particular to Keith McMahon who originally found us the building. Sadly rather a lot of people were away on holiday, but it needed to be held before Keith and Julie left for U.S.A. Everyone who came enjoyed a lovely evening, with good company and good food.

Beavers	Monday	6-7pm	Jan Antiosewicz	681430
Cubs	Tuesday	6.30-8pm	Nikki Reeve	681372
Scouts	Friday	7-9pm	Jeff Pollard	625454

Note the new time

~ Julia Ellis

## Sick Day

“Ey, boss I not come work today, I really sick. I got headache, stomach ache, and my legs hurt, I not come work.”

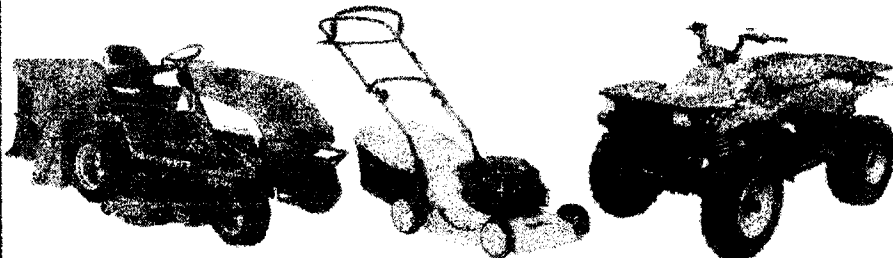
The boss says: “You know Carlos I really need you today. When I feel like this I go to my wife and tell her to give me sex. That makes me feel better and I can go to work. You should try that.”

Two hours later Carlos calls back: “Boss, I did what you said and I feel great, I'll be at work soon. By the way, you got nice house.”

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# St James Church

## Church Services

2nd Sept Three Parish Communion at Wingrave 10.00		
9 <sup>th</sup>	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	People's Praise
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Family Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Harvest Festival Communion
23rd	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
30 <sup>th</sup>	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Harvest Festival Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	10.00 Cublington	Harvest Family Service
	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Morning Worship

## Church Sidesmen

2nd	No Service
9th	Mr. A Ford
16th	Mr. J Hartnett
23rd	Mr. A. Ford
30th	Mr. G Kemp

## Church Flowers

1st /2nd	No service
8th/9th	Mrs Ford
15th/16th	Harvest Festival
22nd/23rd	Mrs Wyer
29th/30th	Miss A Goodman
6th/7th Oct	Wedding



## Harvest Festival

St James Church ~ Sunday 16th September ~ 11.15 am.

## Harvest Sale

Bull & Butcher ~ Sunday 16th September ~ 7.00pm

## Sunday Readings

2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Trinity 12	Hebrews 13.1-8,15-16 Luke 14.1,7-14
9 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 13	Philemon 1-21; Luke 14.25-33
16 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 14	1 Timothy 1.12-17; Luke 15. 1-10
23rd	Trinity 15	1 Timothy 2.1-7; Luke 16.1-13
30 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 16	1 timothy 6.6-19; Luke 16.19-31
7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Trinity 17	2 Timothy 1.1-14; Luke 17.5-10

## From the Registrars

### Baptism

24 <sup>th</sup> June	Fawn Chastney at Wingrave
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Lucy Roson at Wingrave
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Honor Brigg at Wingrave Judith Reeve at Wingrave
5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Abbie Lee at Aston Abbotts
12 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Jake Sanders at Aston Abbotts Connor & Danielle Thompson at Aston Abbotts

### Marriage

7 <sup>th</sup> July	Mark Edwards & Kirsty Springett at Wingrave
28 <sup>th</sup> July	James MacKenzie and Becky Wilson at Wingrave

### Funeral

21 <sup>st</sup> June	Brendan Daniels at Wingrave
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Ethel Farrands at Aston Abbotts
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Norman Carter at Wingrave & Amersham
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Vera White at Wingrave URC
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Leonard Scutchings at Aston Abbotts

## ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

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

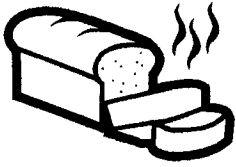
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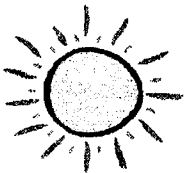
Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

Tel: 681011

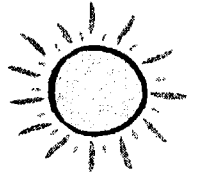
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# What's On In September

- Thursday 6th** Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00  
*Also:* Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Saturday 8th** Sponsored cycle ride in aid of the 'Historic Church Fund'. Entry forms are available from Ann Goodman, 4 Church Row. (Enjoy a cycle ride around Bucks)
- Sunday 9th** Rambling Club members meet Kingsbridge picnic site 2.00pm. Contact Colin (681343) for details.
- Tuesday** 11th Mobile Library ~ The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
- Wednesday** 12th Parish Council Meeting Church Room 8.00 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
- Sunday 16th** Harvest Festival – St James Church 11.15 am.  
*Also:* Harvest Sale. Bull & Butcher 7.00pm
- Thursday 20th** Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00 *Also* Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Sunday 23rd** Village footpath walk. The Green 2.00pm
- Tuesday 25th** Mobile Library ~ The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm  
*Also:* Aylesbury Farmer's Market. Market Square, Aylesbury. 9am—2pm  
*Also:* Floral Class Church Room 7.00 pm.
- Thursday 27th** Toddlers Group in the Church Room 10.00-12.00  
*Also:* Bingo in The Church Room 7.30pm
- Sunday 30th** Rambling Club members meet Whaddon 2.00pm. Colin—681343.
- Wed 3rd Oct** October Rambling Club members 'Autumn/Winter planning meeting' – Moorlands, Wing 8.00pm.

## Book These Dates

**Sunday 7th October** Auction of promises and 50/50 auction at The Old Masters. Tickets £6 from Liz Barlow on 682605. Please contact Clare Shorrocks on 681260 if you have something to auction or promise. See full details on pages 21 and 22.

**Sunday 4th November** Coach trip to Brighton for the London to Brighton 'Old Crock's' race. Book with Colin on 681343.

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*Tutor:* Linda Howse *Fee:* £50  
(An ILA can count towards this course fee, if paid in advance. Please ask for details).  
A certificate of attendance will be available, stating the work covered.

**Tiger on the Hearth - a study of cats**  
4 Mondays 1.30—3pm from 1st October  
*Tutor:* Jackie Green *Fee:* £17.50 (£16 pre-booked)

**Fungi, Mosses and Ferns**  
6 Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30pm from 2nd October  
*Tutor:* Joanna Bourne *Fee:* £32 (£30 pre-booked)

**Writing Memories for the Family**  
5 Mondays 1.30—3pm from 5<sup>th</sup> November  
*Tutor:* Doris Mobbs *Fee:* £21 (£19.50 pre-booked)

### For Further Information please ring

John Clements: 01296 688316 / Pat Proctor: 01525 376224

**Enrolments:** Enid Smith, 32 Stewkley Road, Wing, Leighton Buzzard. LU7 0NE

# Funday

1st Wingrave Scout Group  
Sunday 16th September 2001  
At the Scout hut in Chiltern Road  
Come and join in the Fun from 12.30

### Activities will include

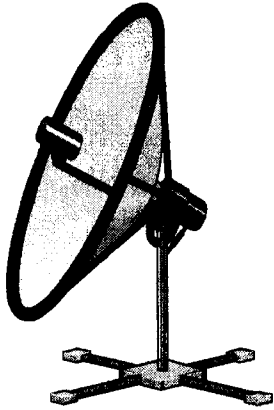
Camp site layout ~ Cooking sausage on a stick  
Candle making ~ Lucky Dip ~ Leatherwork  
Kite making ~ Face painting ~ Badge making  
Sweet tombola ~ Photographic Display  
Parachute games ~ Archery ~ and much more

Teas-coffee-cakes

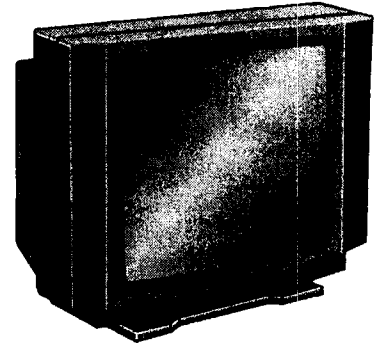
Ending with a camp fire at 4.15 until 4.45

# FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

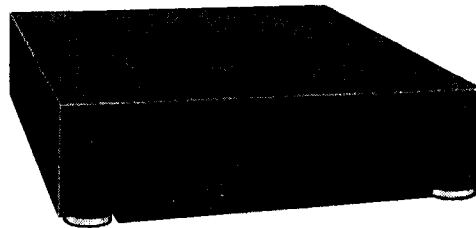


T.V. VIDEO AND  
SATELLITE  
SERVICING AND  
GENERAL REPAIR



RENTALS, NEW  
AND USED SALES

MOST MAKES  
REPAIRED  
THE SAME  
DAY



NO CALL OUT  
FEE WITHIN  
ASTON  
ABBOTTS

PHONE DAVE LEWIS  
ON 01296 682126

