

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 205 ~ October 2001



Saint James Aston Abbotts.

EB
03/01

Inside -

Special Marriage Supplement—see page 13

Also -

Have a flight over Aston Abbotts—see page 9

Email us at ~ editor@aston-abbotts-chronicle.co.uk

Editorial

Marriage

Marriage! You just can't ignore it. Despite dire warnings from their elders more and more young people are experimenting with it. What makes young people from seemingly good backgrounds get involved with it in the first place? What makes them think they can control it? Why do fools fall in love?

Here at The Chronicle we have all of the questions, but none of the answers. So starting (appropriately) on page 13 we have a two-page supplement looking at marriage: what the dictionary definition of marriage means, stories of marriage, and what famous people think of it. Don't miss this Chronicle special.

The Harvest Auction

Marriage, the subject of our supplement, is just one of the times in our life when we may call upon the Church.

It's nice to have a Church in the village. I know that few make regular use of it, what with busy modern lifestyles demanding so much of our time, but many like to call upon it for special events, such as births, deaths and marriage. Lots of us like to attend the Christmas service. It's nice that the Church is there when we need it—and I'm sure most would prefer to have the stone church building on the corner rather than a block of flats or group of detached houses. We're actually very lucky to have a Church which still has regular services every Sunday, not just one every few weeks like so many others.

The Church doesn't ask much of the village—help with cutting the grass, part of the fete proceeds—not a lot. Which makes it rather sad that attendance at the annual Harvest Sale of produce has become so poor these days. This year it was *pathetic*. Barely two dozen people, including a couple of young lads from out-of-village who had just popped into the Bull for a pint, but ended up digging deep into their pockets and getting into the spirit of the occasion. The fact that the sale still realised £200 was due entirely to the generosity of the few who were there.

So where were you?

Fireworks

This year's Fireworks display takes place on November 5th—see page 17 for details. Once again Lol Hinds has kindly volunteered to run it, helped by his willing team. Last year it poured with rain, but that didn't stop many people turning out to see Dave Lewis and his flame thrower successfully light a sodden bonfire. Let's hope the weather will be kinder this year.

Everybody is welcome. There is no charge, but please bring a **large** firework with you as price of admission. Boxes of small ones are not really suitable as they get overshadowed by the larger display fireworks. See you there!

Phil

THE CHRONICLE

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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 26th October 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.

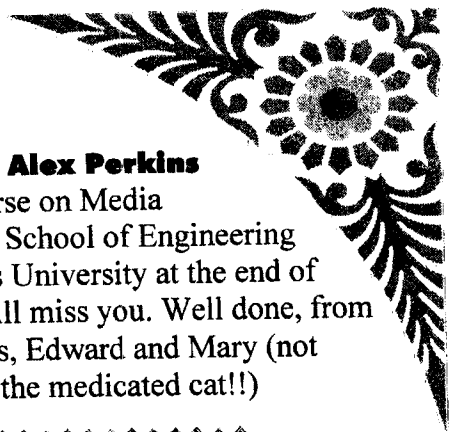
In This Issue

In this month's Chronicle ~

- ◆ The Harvest Auction
- ◆ Andy's Great North Run
- ◆ The Marriage Supplement
- ◆ New Streetlights
- ◆ Euro English
- ◆ Poetry
- ◆ Looking After Your Possessions

and much, much more.....

The Peoples Page



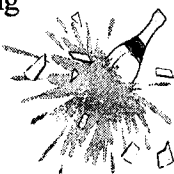
Happy Birthday

George (Freddie) Lowden	1st
Denise Robinson	2nd
Juliette Gutierrez	3rd
Stuart Biddle	5th
Devon King	8th
Edward Picking	11th
Juan Gutierrez	14th
Christine Scott	24th
Jackie Farrands	24th
Rita Robinson	26th
Val Espley	27th
Mandy Thornhill	29th
Hayley Wilkinson	31st

Well done to **Nigel and Sally Palmer**. At their party to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary they asked for donations to the Church Room fund instead of



gifts. Nigel tells me they



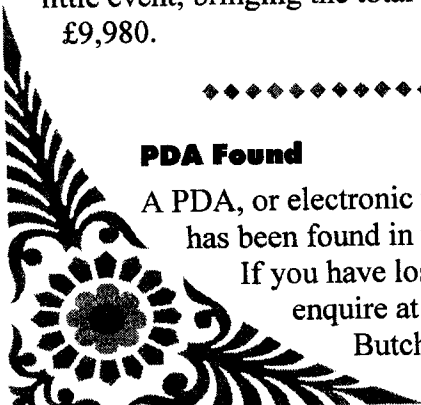
banked £305 into the Aston Abbotts Parish Hall Fund from their little event, bringing the total raised so far to £9,980.



PDA Found

A PDA, or electronic personal organiser, has been found in the telephone box.

If you have lost one please enquire at the Bull and Butcher



Congratulations to **Alex Perkins** who starts his course on Media Technology in the School of Engineering at Oxford Brookes University at the end of September. We will miss you. Well done, from Mum, Alan, James, Edward and Mary (not forgetting Claude the medicated cat!!)



Andi Swain and **Rebecca Lord** will be married at St James on October 6th. We wish them the very best for their wedding day and every happiness for the future.



Good Luck to **Teri** and **Gary** at **The Royal Oak**—they're on the shortlist for Aylesbury Vale Pub of The Year.

Set Your CLOCKS Back

Don't forget the clocks go back one hour on the weekend of the 27th/28th October

A Polite Request

Would the person who is dumping their grass cuttings and garden rubbish behind the bus shelter in the middle of the village PLEASE refrain from doing so, and clear up the mess you have already made! If your identity becomes known you will be invited to contribute to the cost of any repairs to the shelter, which was built by village people for the use of everyone.

Thank you.



Editorial Note

A villager told me off for not including Mrs Ed's exam result in The Chronicle last month, but it was nothing compared with the telling off I got when I *did* try to include it.

I would like to point out that in all editorial matters and, in fact, in matters of life in general, the editor's wife's decision is final.

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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In The Village

Harvest Auction

Due, quite rightly to the church's sense of fair play, it was the turn of the 'Bull' to host the Harvest sale this year. When we got there, we were impressed by the very high quality of produce. There wasn't an excess of any one product (even apples and marrows). Instead, there was a nice blend of recently picked vegetables, flowers and fruit (cultivated and wild). Other produce included an exceptionally good selection of freshly cooked cakes and bread. Also, a good 'spread' of preserves and enough homemade wine to form the basis of a jolly good party had any one person bought it. In actual fact, as Bob Wilmott started the auctioning the produce, it was soon clear that the half dozen or so bottles were in great demand and were quickly 'snapped up' by several people, including Frank!

The few 'lads' already having a drink at the bar readily joined in and seemed (with Daniel) to have an insatiable appetite for the cakes being offered. About 24 people attended, and as at every previous harvest sale, several had some very good bargains. However, since the money being raised was going to charity, there were quite a few 'good sports' who deliberately bid against each other to keep prices high causing much fun in the process.

By the time the sale ended the totals raised were £200 for the Church and £50 from the raffle; the later going to the farmers 'Foot and Mouth fund'.

By the way, Andi Swain bought a giant marrow with a view to making 'rum'. If anyone out there has the recipe or method, please let Andi or any of the 'Chronicle staff' know; it will be much appreciated.



"When I was a kid I got no respect. I worked in a pet store. People kept askin' how big I'd get." ~ Rodney Dangerfield

"I'm proud to be paying taxes in the United States. The only thing is, I could be just as proud for half the money." ~ Arthur Godfrey

"An optimist is one who makes the best of it when he gets the worst of it." ~ Laurence Peter

It's Cabaret Time Again!

The date for this years Cabaret has been set for the 8th Dec 2001 at 8.00 pm. It is being designed to be a sophisticated nightclub setting. Music and acts are being tailored to follow this theme and will give the cast a chance to demonstrate their broad range of talents.

We are always looking for new people and new talent to take part, as some of the overworked team demand to be rested. So if you want some excitement by taking part, then please contact one of the usual suspects, usually to be found propping up the bar in the Bull and Butcher, or contact me on 681201.

Tickets are limited to 54 because of the size of the hall, so demand is always pretty fierce. John Whyte is ticket master so please contact him early. He says this year he will harden his heart to the usual miscreants that try to bribe him to sneak in an extra one or two tickets, or who turn up at the door in hope. John needs your cash with ticket to be sure that you get a seat

~ Neil Chesher

El Staggo Grande

This month we had hoped to bring you a report on the cultural trip to Spain by a large group of villagers and a supporting entourage (21 people in all!). Unfortunately, a couple of technical hitches have prevented publication.

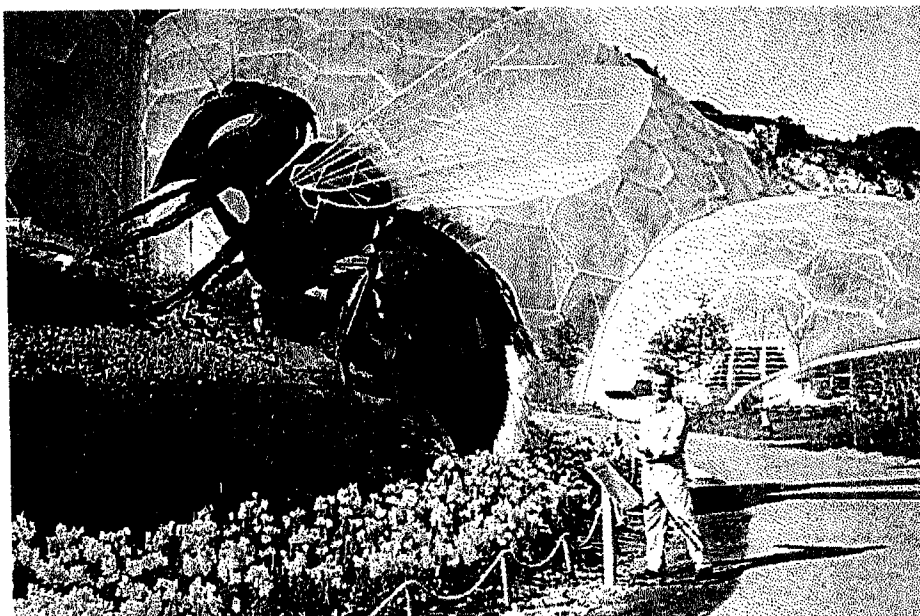
The first technical hitch was guest reporter John W—he forgot to write the report! That's not surprising. He forgot a lot of things in when we were away—and if we hadn't tied a large label with the name of the hotel around his neck he probably would still be wandering up and down the Torremelinos seafront in an alcohol-induced daze until this very day.

The final blow as when Mrs Ed impounded the photographs: "You can't print *those!*". So we shall try to bring you a report in the future, but don't hold your breath.

~ Phil Spooner

PS. If you are unaware of the reason for this expedition—see pages 13 and 15.

Who Is This Bee?



It's our very own Andy Bystra—A. Bee—(he's the little bee on the right), pictured next to a giant bee at The Eden Project, whilst holidaying in Cornwall earlier this year.

Thanks to Anne Brancker for the picture.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

JOHN SANSOME (Chairman)
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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

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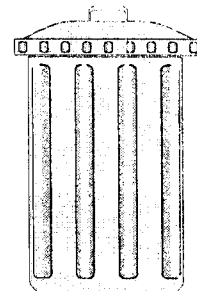
GEORGE FOX
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TONY HINDS
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Letters To The Editor

Dear Ed

Saturday 8th September, Wingrave Road, Aston Abbotts

Not such a perfect day. Partner sailing (again!) Boys returned from holiday on Corfu with two very large suitcases of dirty washing! Rain expected - situation grim.

Sit down, pour coffee, read Chronicle. Laugh hysterically at article on How to Medicate Your Cat. Wipe tears from eyes to reveal a much brighter outlook. Thank you so much. More of this PLEASE!

Thanks Ed for a great newsletter which keeps us residents down Wingrave Road in tune with the rest of the village!

Jo Perkins

My Great North Run

I began the weekend of Sept. 15th & 16th by travelling on Saturday morning by train from Milton Keynes to Durham where I would be staying for the weekend in Collingwood College, part of Durham university. I arrived at Durham at 2.30 pm., got settled in and at 5.00pm. joined about 200 athletes for a 'pasta party'. Next morning I was up early for breakfast at 6.30, picked up my kitbag and boarded one of the special coaches laid on to take athletes to the race start at Newcastle. We arrived at Newcastle at 7.45, stowed our bags on the 'baggage buses' which left at 9.10 for South Shields.

I did some warming up exercises and talked to other runners and at 10.00 am. Lined up with 42,000 other runners. The race started at 10.10 but it took me six minutes to reach the start line. Then the running began. The race went well, the weather good and the crowds along the way very supportive. I arrived at South Shields, having ran the 13 miles in 1 hour and 43 minutes. Here I received my medal and tee shirt. After finding my bag on the baggage bus, put on some more clothes and found the bus to take me back to Durham. By the time I had a shower and changed my clothes, it was time for a delicious 'roast' evening meal. We then watched the highlights of the race on TV before turning in.

I left Durham on the Monday morning at 9.30, arriving back at Milton Keynes railway station at 2.30. My sponsorship money for 'Children Nationwide' will be in excess of £200.

~ Andy Ford

Friends Reunited

Did you ever wonder what happened to your old school friends?

My mind turned to this recently when Peter Shorrock was kind enough to give me an Old Boy's association membership list. I was disappointed to find that I didn't recognise one name on the list, although this may have less to do with any deficiency in the list and more to do with the combination of passing years and the cumulative effects of 30+ years of alcohol consumption.

Then I stumbled upon an internet site that sets out to reunite old school friends. After registering my name, school and the year of my leaving, I found several people from my year had already registered—and I immediately recognised three of the names.

There are other sections of the site where people can post
(Continued on page 11)

New Streetlights

The Parish Council is currently considering requests to install two new streetlights in the village. This is an expensive exercise – one completely new light on its own column will cost around £700, all of which comes out of the Parish Precept. The funds cannot bear such a large expense at the moment, so the finance for any new lights would have to be added on to the Parish Precept (your Council Tax) for next year.

Here are details of the two proposals. What the locals think is very important to the Parish Council, so please let us know your views on these suggestions before the next meeting, which is on October 24th. You can contact either the Clerk, Kate Curry, (681137) or Chairman, John Sansome (681010), or write to Kate at 2, Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane.

1. New light on The Green, to illuminate the entrance to The Grove. The exact location has not yet been decided, and it may be possible to move the existing light, which is partially screened by trees, to a better position instead. A site meeting is being arranged with our lighting maintenance contractor to discuss the possibilities.
2. New light on Wingrave Road, between the allotment corner and the Royal Oak. This would be situated about half way along, on the pavement side.

What do you think?

~ Kate Curry

The Red Lion, Berton

The Red Lion at Berton is a typical "good food" pub. Having been given a recommendation, Ed, Mrs Ed, Sally and I packed into Carol's XR2 one evening and nipped down to try it out. There is a bit of history to this pub as is carefully explained inside the front cover of the menu. Oak beams are plentiful in the restaurant and the beer's not bad either. It is rather a pity that they decided to build it on the busy A418, but I don't suppose the passing coach and horses of yesteryear caused quite as much vibration as the juggernauts of today. The restaurant was reasonably popular for a Tuesday night.

We looked through the *a la carte* menu and all decided to order Thai Prawns for our starter. I suppose that we look for the unusual and other choices didn't really catch the eye. The prawns were certainly succulent, even if the Thai sauce was perhaps a little strong. When it came to the main courses we tested the chef somewhat more. One of the features of the menu is that main courses come with a choice of (free) homemade sauces. I chose a Diane sauce to go with my sirloin steak which came with all the usual trimmings. The steak was fine however the sauce really needed a little more cooking to soften up the onions and mushrooms and was a little on the thin side. Sally went for trout and rather bravely selected a lemon pepper sauce to accompany it. Phil tried the Cajun chicken while Carol chickened out with salmon. The chips were particularly excellent, crisp on the outside, yet they almost melted in your mouth. Sadly the meringue roulade was off so we shared two bowls of profiteroles.

The bill for the four of us came to £50 including drinks. We didn't indulge in a bottle of wine, however the house wines were a very reasonable £7.50 a bottle. All in all, the experience was perhaps not terribly memorable to a gastronome but nevertheless represented good quality healthy food for a reasonable price.

~ Nigel Palmer



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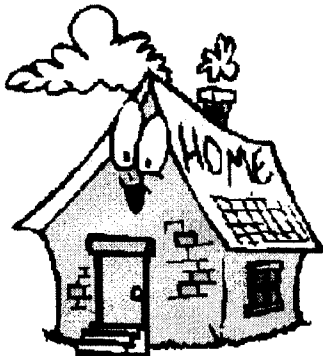
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- ▶ Rich Fruit Cake
- ▶ Pop Art Mirror
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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 12th September 2001

The meeting was chaired by Cllr John Sansome. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record, and there were no matters arising.

Comments From The Floor

Mr. Higgs reported that the boards in the bus shelter in the middle of the village are in need of some attention. He also requested diversion signs, to be put in the village in the event of traffic being diverted following accidents on the main roads. It was felt that this would be impractical, and that the situation will probably improve once the finger post has been replaced.

P.C. Buckle attended the meeting and reported that he is still placing articles on crime prevention in the Chronicle. On the question of fly tipping, he said that people can contact the police if they actually see someone fly-tipping, and they will follow it up. Speeding on Lines Hill was also discussed. Finally, P.C. Buckle commented that the travellers currently occupying the lay-by on the A418 north of Rowsham are there with the approval of AVDC, who have provided them with portaloos.

County Council And District Council Matters

No representative from either the County or District Council was present.

Planning

O1/01862/APP The Orchard, Moat Lane. Erection of one detached dwelling. Comments were made concerning the poor access to the site and whether the proposed dwelling would relate well to the existing pattern of development within the village. Appeal decision – It was noted that the appeal in respect of the application by Mrs. E. McManus to build five bungalows in Moat Lane has been dismissed.

Highways

Finger post on The Green - The Clerk gave an update on the

current situation.

The new directional sign at Wingrave Crossroads is causing visibility problems for buses and tractors. The Clerk agreed to contact Highways and ask to have it moved.

Recreation Ground

Annual Inspection report – the climbing frame has apparently reached the end of its projected lifespan. All the councillors agreed to inspect it before the next meeting. Safety check – children's play area – nothing to report. Grass mowing (2002) – quotes are now being sought.

Streetlights

The proposed installation of two new streetlights was discussed: One for Wingrave Road between the allotments and the Royal Oak, and a new light on The Green. A site meeting will be arranged with our lighting maintenance contractors to discuss siting or the possibility of moving the existing light on The Green. An article will be placed in the Chronicle asking for residents' comments.

Fireworks

The PC's donation to the firework display on the Rec. was discussed. Lawrence Hinds said he is willing to run the evening again, and the P.C. resolved to donate £150 towards the cost of this year's display.

A.O.B.

Complaints have been received concerning the frequently late and erratic deliveries of post by the Royal Mail in Aston Abbotts. The Clerk will write a letter of complaint.

Date For Next Meeting

Wednesday 24th October – Everyone Is Welcome To Come Along

~ Kate Curry

The Marauder

A black cat crossed my path today
With steamy yellow eyes.
He stopped to stare, as if to say
"Is this your way, or mine?"

A tabby then, with four white paws,
And then a pigeon grey
Gave way before my swift advance,
Which recognised no laws.

My hunting season never ends,
My supercilious glare
Puts fright into my foes and friends,
I drag them to my lair.

Feline paws cleaned feline face
With hypnotising grace.
He stretched and arched, unsheathed
his claws
Which recognised no laws.

An independent outsider
This ginger cat of ours.
His stripey coat of roughened fur
Hid chauvinistic powers.

He lived not long, but well and wild,
Joys overfilled his cup.
Maturity eluded him,
All nine lives were used up.

(But we still miss him..)

~ Jean Sansome

(Continued from page 7)

memories of their school. Several Masters of mine were already mentioned, bringing memories flooding (well, trickling actually) back.

You can register your name and year of leaving, read the lists of people already registered and read the memories for free, but you have to join for a fiver (a year) if you want to contact an old school friend you've spotted. The site is fairly new, but growing.

So, if you have internet access, it's worth taking a look. The site address is

www.friendsreunited.co.uk

Future developments for the site include a section for finding old work or Services colleagues, which I reckon could be even more popular.

~ Phil Spooner

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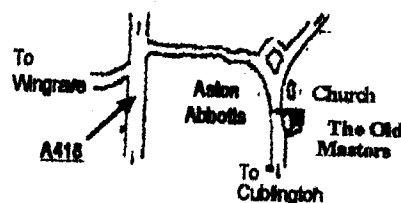
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The Marriage Supplement

A Little Dictionary Of Marriage

BABE or **BABY**, *n.* A misshapen creature of no particular age, sex, or condition, chiefly remarkable for the violence of the sympathies and antipathies it excites in others, itself without sentiment or emotion.

BEAUTY, *n.* The power by which a woman charms a lover and terrifies a husband.

BIGAMY, *n.* A mistake in taste for which the wisdom of the future will adjudge a punishment called trigamy.

BRIDE, *n.* A woman with a fine prospect of happiness behind her.

BRUTE, *n.* See **HUSBAND**.

FEMALE, *n.* One of the opposing, or unfair, sex.

HELPMATE, *n.* A wife, or bitter half.

HUSBAND, *n.* One who, having dined, is charged with the care of the plate.

INCOMPATIBILITY, *n.* In matrimony a similarity of tastes, particularly the taste for domination.

INTIMACY, *n.* A relation into which fools are providentially drawn for their mutual destruction.

LOVE, *n.* A temporary insanity curable by marriage or by removal of the patient from the influences under which he incurred the disorder. This disease, like *caries* and many other ailments, is prevalent only among civilized races living under artificial conditions;

barbarous nations breathing pure air and eating simple food enjoy immunity from its ravages. It is sometimes fatal, but more frequently to the physician than to the patient.

MAIDEN, *n.* A young person of the unfair sex addicted to clewless conduct and views that madden to crime. The genus has a wide geographical distribution, being found wherever sought and deplored wherever found. The maiden is not altogether unpleasing to the eye, nor (without her piano and her views) insupportable to the ear, though in respect to comeliness distinctly inferior to the rainbow, and, with regard to the part of her that is audible, bleating out of the field by the canary -- which, also, is more portable.

MALE, *n.* A member of the unconsidered, or negligible sex. The male of the human race is commonly known (to the female) as Mere Man. The genus has two varieties: good providers and bad providers.

MAN, *n.* An animal so lost in rapturous contemplation of what he thinks he is as to overlook what he indubitably ought to be. His chief occupation is extermination of other animals and his own species, which, however, multiplies with such insistent rapidity as to infest the whole habitable earth and Canada.

MARRIAGE, *n.* The state or condition of a community consisting of a master, a

mistress and two slaves, making in all, two.

UXORIOUSNESS, *n.* A perverted affection that has strayed to one's own wife.

WEDDING, *n.* A ceremony at which two persons undertake to become one, one undertakes to become nothing, and nothing undertakes to become supportable.

WOMAN, *n.* An animal usually living in the vicinity of Man, and having a rudimentary susceptibility to domestication. It is credited by many of the elder zoologists with a certain vestigial docility acquired in a former state of seclusion, but naturalists of the postsusananthony period, having no knowledge of the seclusion, deny the virtue and declare that such as creation's dawn beheld, it roareth now. The species is the most widely distributed of all beasts of prey, infesting all habitable parts of the globe, from Greenland's spicy mountains to India's moral strand. The popular name (*wolfman*) is incorrect, for the creature is of the cat kind. The woman is lithe and graceful in its movement, especially the American variety (*felis pugnans*), is omnivorous and can be taught not to talk. [*Balthasar Pober*]

~ Taken from *The Devil's Dictionary* written by Ambrose Bierce between 1881 and 1906.

One bright, beautiful Sunday morning, everyone in the tiny town of Johnstown got up early and went to the local church. Before the services started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking about their lives, their families, etc. Suddenly, the Devil himself appeared at the front of the congregation. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate.

Soon everyone was evacuated from the Church, except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew, not moving, seemingly oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. Now this confused Satan a bit, so he walked up to the man and said, "Don't you know who I am?"

The man replied, "Yep, sure do."

Satan asked, "Aren't you afraid of me?"

"Nope, sure ain't," said the man. Satan was a little perturbed at this and asked, "Why aren't you afraid of me?"

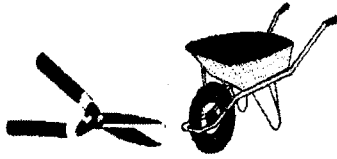
The man replied, "I've been married to your sister for over 48 years."

- ♥ Married life is very frustrating. In the first year of marriage, the man speaks and the woman listens. In the second year, the woman speaks and the man listens. In the third year, they both speak and the neighbours listen.
- ♥ Young Son: Is it true, Dad, I heard that in some parts of Africa a man doesn't know his wife until he marries her? Dad: That happens in most countries, son.
- ♥ Getting married is very much like going to a restaurant with friends. You order what you want, then when you see what the other fellow has, you wish you had ordered that.
- ♥ After a quarrel, a wife said to her husband, "You know, I was a fool when I married you." And the husband replied, "Yes, dear, but I was in love and didn't notice it."
- ♥ Bobbi Jean had been married only three days. She walked into a Tulsa drugstore and asked for a bottle of men's deodorant. "The ball type?" asked the clerk. "No," she replied. "For under his arms."

Continued on page zzz

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The Marriage Supplement—continued

A man is incomplete until he is married. After that, he is finished. ~ *Zsa Zsa Gabor*

I left home to marry a man whom no one liked, and after I married him, I didn't like him either. ~ *Margery Allingham*

Some people claim that marriage interferes with romance. There's no doubt about it. Anytime you have a romance, your wife is bound to interfere. ~ *Groucho Marx*

The problem with most women is that they get all excited about nothing... and then marry him. ~ *Cher*

Marriage is a romance in which the hero dies in the first chapter. ~ *Anon*

Marriage is a three ring circus: engagement ring, wedding ring, and suffering. ~ *Anon*

Any intelligent woman who reads the marriage contract, and then goes into it, deserves all the consequences. ~ *Isadora Duncan*

Politics doesn't make strange bedfellows, marriage does. ~ *Groucho Marx*

Marriage is not a word; it is a sentence. ~ *Anon*

A marriage is the triumph of imagination over intelligence. A second marriage is the triumph of hope over experience. ~ *Anon*

Marriage is when a man and woman become as one; the trouble starts when they try to decide which one. ~ *Anon*

Husbands are like fires. They go out when unattended. ~ *Zsa Zsa Gabor*

Love is blind -- marriage is the eye-opener. ~ *Pauline Thomason*

Marriage is a lottery, but you can't tear up your ticket if you

lose. ~ *F.M. Knowles*

I never knew what real happiness was until I got married; and then it was too late ~ *Anon*

Women are meant to be loved, not understood. ~ *Oscar Wilde*

Honeymoon - That brief period of time between, "I do" and "You'd better!" ~ *Anon*

Marriage is a great institution, but I'm not ready for an institution. ~ *Mae West* or *Groucho Marx*

I think men who have a pierced ear are better prepared for marriage. They've experienced pain and bought jewellery. ~ *Rita Rudner*

Love and Marriage

Love is holding hands in the street—Marriage is holding arguments in the street.

Love is dinner for two in your favourite restaurant—Marriage is a Chinese take-out.

Love is cuddling on a sofa—Marriage is deciding on a sofa.

Love is talking about having children—Marriage is talking about getting away from children.

Love is going to bed early—Marriage is going to sleep early.

Love is a romantic drive—Marriage is a tarmac drive.

Love is losing your appetite—Marriage is losing your figure.

Love is sweet nothing in the ear—Marriage is sweet nothing in the bank.

Love is a flickering flame—Marriage is a flickering television

Love is one drink and two straws—Marriage is "Don't you think you've had enough!"



The Promises Of Marriage

Marriage is a promise of companionship, of having someone to share all of life's experiences.

Marriage does not promise that there will not be any rough times, just the assurance that there will always be someone who cares and will help you through to better times.

Marriage does not promise eternal romance, just eternal love and commitment.

Marriage can't prevent disappointments, disillusionment, or grief, but it can offer hope, acceptance, and comfort.

Marriage can't protect you from making individual choices or shelter you from the world, but it will help to reassure you that there is someone by your side who truly cares.

When the world hurts you and makes you feel vulnerable, marriage offers the promise that there will be someone waiting to listen, to console, to inspire.

Marriage is the joining of two people who share the promise that only marriage can make ~ to share the sunshine and the shadows, and to experience a richer, more fulfilling life because of it.

- *Bettie Meeks*

Good Luck

Andi

and

Becky

Former Chronicle Editor Andi Swain marries Becky Lord at St James on October 6th 2001

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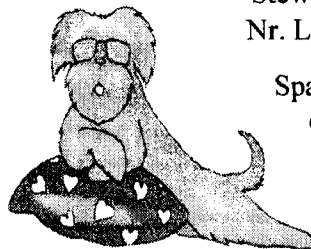
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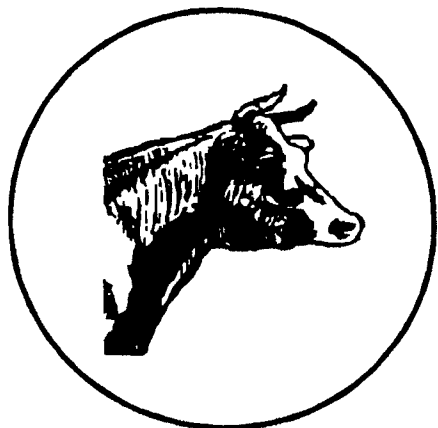


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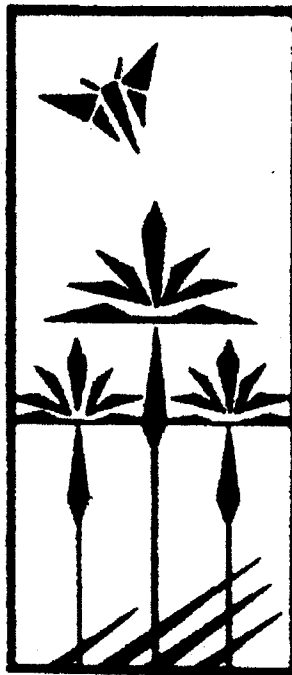
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Looking After Your Possessions

THAMES VALLEY Police Advice POLICE



This month concentrates on your possessions inside your home.

Think about all the things in your home, which are of special importance to you and your family. They may be items of particular sentimental value, which would be virtually impossible to replace, or other property, which could be replaced if necessary, but at a price! Either way, to you they're unique.

Every year hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of lost or stolen property is recovered by the Police and not returned to its rightful owners, simply because they cannot be identified.

Make Your Property Unique

You can do this by marking each item, with your postcode and your house number, or the first two letters of your house name.

You can mark the item in the following ways; **engraving or etching, punching** - the number is die stamped as on cycles, and **ultra violet marking** - an ultra violet marker is used to write the number, which is not visible to the eye, but can be seen when ultra violet light is shone on it, to be used on televisions, videos etc. You can buy these markers from any DIY shop.

Keep a Record

If your property is stolen could you - describe it

in detail? or give the serial numbers?

Always keep a record of your valuable property to include - serial numbers, detailed description, make, model, and colour.

Take a colour photograph of jewellery and other distinctive items. Be sure to photograph on a contrasting plain background, with a ruler to show the size.

Keep these details in a safe place, possibly with a relative or at your bank.

Marking your property will help reduce the risk of theft, and if it does get stolen, you stand a much better chance of getting it back.

Remember to include serial numbers of items you may have outside the house, such as lawnmowers, chain saws etc, as these items are very much the subject of thefts in the area at this time of the year. And it wouldn't hurt to mark these items as soon as possible!

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
Tel.no.01296 396163*

Euro Conversion

Here is a news leak outlining the new position taken by our Government that you may not have seen yet!! Please read it aloud.

The European Commission has just announced an agreement whereby English will be the official language of the EU rather than German, which was the other possibility. As part of the negotiations, the British Government conceded that English spelling has some room for improvement and has accepted a five year phase-in plan that will be known as "Euro-English".

In the first year, "s" will replace the soft "c". Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump with joy. The hard "c" will be dropped in favour of the "k". This should klear up konfusion and keyboards can have 1 less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome "ph" will be replaced with "f". This will make words like "fotograf" 20% shorter.

In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be ekspekted to reach the stage where more komplikated khanges are possible. Governments will enkourage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. The language is disgraseful, and they should go away.

By the fourth year, peopl will be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" with "z" and "w" with "v".

During ze fifz year, ze unesesary "o" kan be dropt from vords kontaining "ou" and similar khanges vud of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of leters.

After zis fifz yer, ve vil hav a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubl or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi to understand ech ozer. Ze drem vil finali kum tru! And zen ve vil tak over ze world!

~ submitted by Nigel Palmer

Jean's Hike!

Good heavens Jean!; we didn't know, that you regard your rural bliss as such a disadvantaged blow and village life sincerely miss.

We're sorry that you feel neglected and find the pub an awful trudge. Far to far to feel connected; and coming back a fearful drudge.

But wait a minute! - half a mow! Norduck, Bursden, Pages too; these all have half a mile to go. All live far further out than you.

So why not have a great big party. Village folk I know would come, and we could eat and drink most hearty; to your good health, and future fun.

But if a party's not appealing; bide you time cos. things will change. For several people here are scheming; our ancient heritage to rearrange.

So soon your walk won't strain your groins when buildings spread from us to you and village with dear Longmore joins; with houses, pubs and Tesco's too!!!!



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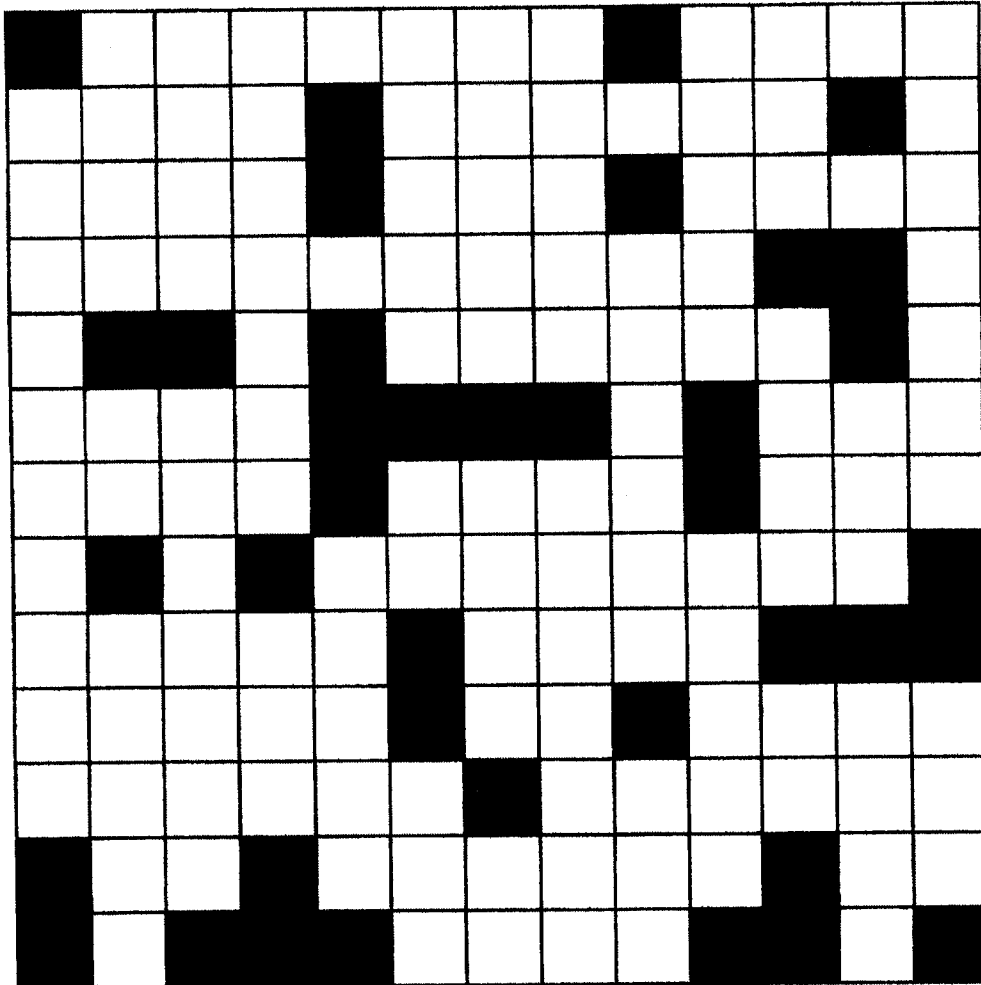
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The Chronicle Crossword

October 2001



Answers to September

ACROSS: 1 Northampton. 7 Ear. 8 Tenanted. 12 Stop. 16 Tracts. 17 Oops. 18 Eat. 19 Corns. 21 Elephants. 25 Police. 27 Lei. 28 Taylor. 29 Ness. 32 Alf. 33 Fester. 35 MS. 36 Coc. 37 Is. 38 One. 39 Amp. 41 GCSES. 43 Now. 44 Pa. 45 Byte. 46 Aero. 47 Nee. 48 Edits.

DOWN: 2 Ornatoly. 4 Tent. 4 Hats. 5 Are. 6 Attempts. 9 Era. 10 AC. 11 Ducal. 12 Sorties. 13 Tons. 14 Ops. 15 PS. 20 Oneness. 22 Lilac. 23 Ecology. 24 Perfect. 26 Oarsman. 30 Stones. 31 Senor. 33 Fic. 34 Rewon. 35 Map. 42 See. 45 Be. 46 At.

ACROSS:

- 1. English —— (7)
- 7. Number (4)
- 10. — now on (4)
- 11. Tailless amphibians (6)
- 12. It produces light (4)
- 13. Sweet bread roll (3)
- 14. American coin (4)
- 15. To make better; improve (10)
- 17. French headwear (6)
- 19. A meat (4)
- 22. Bird (3)
- 24. Wild party (4)
- 25. Greek letter (4)
- 28. Boy's name (3)
- 29. Meant (8)

- 31. Absurb prank (5)
- 34. London Art Gallery (4)
- 35. Din (5)
- 36. Else (2)
- 37. Placed in position (4)
- 41. Herbal drink (6)
- 43. Bird of prey (6)
- 45. Short street (2)
- 46. Bring upon oneself (6)
- 48. Thanks (colloq. 2)
- 49. A benefit payment (4)

DOWN:

- 1. Stuff (4)
- 2. Dwellinghouse (4)

- 3. To increase volume (7)
- 4. Muslim ruler (5)
- 5. Become accustom to something unpleasant ((5)
- 6. Relating to moon (5)
- 7. A particular aspect (5)
- 8. Number (3)
- 9. Regular procedures, rites (7)
- 10. Ostentacious (10)
- 16. Occupier (6)
- 18. The only one (4)
- 20. Royal letters (2)
- 21. Self obsessed person (7)
- 23. Married (3)
- 25. Not out (2)
- 26. Boy's name (4)

- 27. Very upset (7)
- 29 Boadecia was a member of this tribe (5)
- 30. Wooded hollows (5)
- 32. A racket (5)
- 33. An investment (3)
- 38. --/DC (2)
- 39. Greek letter (5)
- 40. Carrier of genetic information (3)
- 42. Finish (3)
- 44. ERA (Anag £0)
- 47. Care of (2)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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Rectors Report

The terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, which have dominated the news for the past days, seem to have thrown many things into disorder. It has certainly put an end to the summer "silly-season" of news in an alarming way.

I had just started to write my Report on the comments of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, when the news came through. But, curiously, what he said, seemed to have a strange relevance. Speaking of the death-throes of the Church as we knew it, he was perhaps being somewhat hasty in his judgement.

To witness attacks on the seemingly alternate gods of finance and military might was one thing. To hear the immediate reactions of those who were to lose their lives was quite another.

Even if the phrase was no more than a gut reaction, "O my God! A plane hit the building or a bomb went off", suggests that faith is not entirely coming to an end. In the harrowing television pictures we saw priests attempting to offer what little spiritual help they could. I saw no devotees of the New Age, nor of the music and other cults.

Yet the Archbishop is probably right! The Church has been in severe decline for centuries.

From his perspective, things may look pretty grim – for I think I am right in saying that the Roman Catholic Church in this country has currently no priests in training. They, like the Church of England and the Nonconformist Churches, are having to come to terms with what this means.

But the Archbishop is also wrong! Because there are many signs of growth in the Church. The growth is especially easy to see in the less formally organised churches.

What we are seeing is a change in the way the Church organises itself and demonstrates its presence. Indeed some theologians were expressing similar concerns about Church structures in the 1960s.

We are having to discover new ways of seeing God and finding that, even in the darkest situations, he is there with us.

~ Bob Willmott

1st Wingrave Scout Group

On Sunday 16th of September, we held an open day to recruit youngsters to the group. It was held at the same time as the new Rec open day (at the opposite end of the field) to enable villagers to take part in both exciting events. The weather was kind to us and large numbers enjoyed a wide variety of activities including a camp site layout, camp fire cooking, parachute games, kite making, candle dipping, sweet tombola and a photographic display of activities in our lovely new hut. The Guides kindly helped with face painting. Refreshments were served all afternoon and the day ended with a presentation to Fran Pollard for everything she has done over the last 4 1/2 years for the group, she has reached the age of 65 and has to retire as Akela. However she is helping Jan to run Beavers for a year until Julie returns from America.

~ Julia Ellis (681118)



Making A Difference In Our Community

Aylesbury Vale Advocates (AVA) has an office at 7 Temple Street, Aylesbury and operates throughout the Vale. AVA has a team of trained Volunteer Advocates who help people with either a learning disability, a mental health problem, or who are elderly and have difficulty in communicating their needs.

For example, help might be needed to sort out a housing problem, a financial matter, or perhaps difficulties with Social Services or the Health Service.

Volunteer Advocates are trained to communicate on behalf of an individual who requires support, making sure that his or her voice is heard, that their opinion and needs are listened to and their human, civil or legal rights are met. An Advocate can help one person or a group, or advise those who want to speak up for themselves.

If you, or someone you know, needs this sort of help then why not contact AVA on 01296 432313? Advocates can visit people's homes if necessary, or help can be provided at AVA's office which is open Monday to Thursday from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm. Alternatively, leave a message on the answerphone at other times and a team member will call you back as soon as possible.

Taking on the role of a Volunteer Advocate can be a very rewarding experience. Full training and on-going support is provided and volunteers can be of any age or nationality and from all walks of life. No special qualifications are necessary - all you need is a couple of hours to spare once a week or fortnight, a caring attitude, listening skills and an appreciation of people's rights. To find out more, call AVA on 01296 432313.

Aylesbury Vale Advocates is a Registered Charity No: 1063911

Jesus

Late one night, a burglar broke into a house he thought was empty. He tiptoed through the living room but suddenly he froze in his tracks when he heard a loud voice say: "Jesus is watching you!" Silence returned to the house, so the burglar crept forward again. "Jesus is watching you," the voice boomed again. The burglar stopped dead again. He was frightened.

Frantically, he looked all around. In a dark corner, he spotted a bird cage and in the cage was a parrot. He asked the parrot: "Was that you who said Jesus is watching me?" "Yes", said the parrot. The burglar breathed a sigh of relief, and asked the parrot: "What's your name?" "Clarence," said the bird.

"That's a dumb name for a parrot," sneered the burglar. "What idiot named you Clarence?" The parrot said, "The same idiot who named the Rottweiler Jesus."

Confession

A man goes to confession and says, "Bless me Father, for I have sinned. Last night I was with seven different women."

The priest says, "Take seven lemons, squeeze them into a glass and drink the juice without pausing."

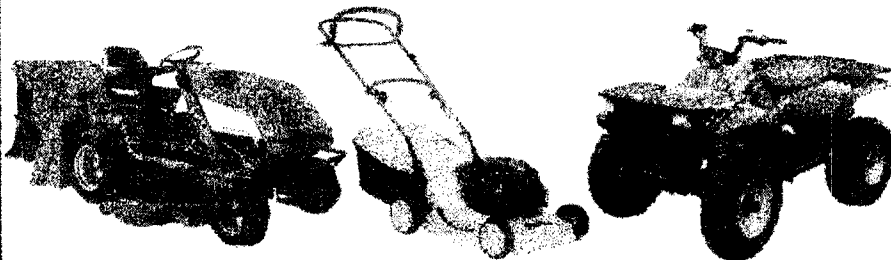
"Will that cleanse me of my sins, Father?"

"No," replies the priest. "But it'll wipe that silly grin off your face."

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St James Church

Church Services

7 th Oct	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Harvest Festival
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Service
	18.00	Cublington	Harvest Evensong
14 th	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	People's Praise
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
21 st	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
28 th	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
4 th Nov	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15	Aston Abbots	Morning Worship

Church Sidesmen

6th	Mr A Ford
13th	Mr C Higgs
20th	Mr G Kemp
27th	Mr J Hartnett

Church Flowers

5/6th	Wedding
12/13th	Wedding
19/20	Mr I Belgrove
26/27	Mr C Higgs

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

Sunday Readings

7 th Oct	Trinity 17	2 Timothy 1.1-14; Luke 17.5-10
14 th	Trinity 18	2 Timothy 2.8-15; Luke 17.11-19
21 st	Trinity 19	2 Timothy 3.14-4.5; Luke 18.1-8
28 th	Trinity 20	2 Timothy 4. 6-8,16-18; Luke 18.9-14

From The Registers

Baptism

19 th Aug	Callum Hilton at Wingrave
26 th	Holly Ellwood at Wingrave

Marriage

24 th Aug	Steven Philipps & Elizabeth Meddows at Wingrave
	Philippe Parry & Victoria Chastney at A. Abbots
1 st Sept	Sean Behan & Charmaine Biggs at Wingrave
15 th	Stewart & Coralee Brown at Wingrave (Blessing)

Funeral

20 th Aug	Jim Kirby at Wingrave URC & Amersham
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Harvest Sale

Harvest Festival services were held at St James Church on September 23rd, conducted by the Rev Peter Binns.

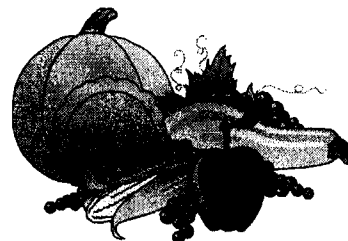
Lessons were read, by Caroline Lane and Mr Binns and the congregation presented their gifts. After the introductory words of the Peace, everyone stood in the aisle, held hands and observed a minute's silence in memory of those who lost their lives in the American tragedy. The organist was Mr Ivor Belgrove.

The celebrations continued in the afternoon with the church tower open, which gave those brave enough to climb the steps fine panoramic views over the village and Aylesbury Vale

In the evening, a short service, conducted by the Rev Bob Willmott, was held at the Bull & Butcher, followed by the auction of produce. The sale raised £200 for Church funds and £50 from the raffle for the Farmer's Foot and Mouth Fund.

Many thanks to all who donated produce and prizes, or attended and bid so generously. Thanks also to Frank and Louise for their help and hospitality, the auctioneers, and to Rev Peter Binns for an excellent morning service.

~ Colin Higgs



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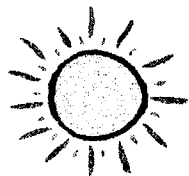
DAILY VILLAGE NEWSPAPERS DELIVERED IN WINGRAVE AND ASTON ABBOTTS

MAGAZINES ORDERED AND SAVED

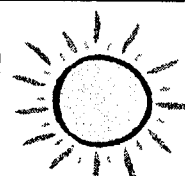
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further details**

What's On In October

- Wednesday 3rd** Rambler's autumn/winter programme planning meeting—Moorlands Wing @ 8pm
- Thursday 4th** Toddlers Club 10-12 noon
Also ~ Whist Drive. Church Room. 7pm.
- Sunday 6th** Auction Sale at the Old Masters. 12 noon. See page zzz.
- Tuesday 9th** Mobile Library at The Green, Wingrave Road and Oxley Farm
- Thursday 18th** Toddlers Club 10-12 noon
Also ~ Whist Drive. Church Room. 7pm.
- Sunday 21st** Rambling Club members meet Ashridge 2pm
- Tuesday 23rd** Mobile Library at The Green, Wingrave Road and Oxley Farm
- Wed 24th** Parish Council meeting. Church Room. 8pm. Everybody welcome
- Thursday 25th** Toddlers Club 10-12 noon
Also ~ Bingo in aid of Heart Foundation. Church Room. 7.30 pm.
Also ~ Highways Meeting Winslow 6pm. Any matters to Cllr. R. Clarke.
- Saturday 27th** Clocks go back one hour
- Tuesday 30th** Floral Class. Church Room. 7pm.
- Wednesday 31st** Halloween Walk. The Green 9pm. Everyone welcome. Bring Torch or Lantern.

Book These Dates

Coach Outing ~ London-Brighton Old Crocks Race. Book with Colin on 681343.

Aston Abbots Fireworks Display ~ The Recreation Ground on Monday November 5th. Bonfire lit at 6.30 pm. Display starts at 7 pm. Please bring one large firework per person as price of admission.

FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY JUMBLE SALE

Sat. Oct. 27th 10 – 12
at the Methodist Church Hall
Bric-a-brac & cake stall
Donations for sale to Lincolns shop or Margaret Parker
Tel 641901

Classified Ads

CHEAP VIDEO CASSETTES—A large number of used video cassettes in good condition. Price 25p each. Discount for quantity. No sensible offer refused. Phone Dave Lewis on 682126 or pop round to Church Farm.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE IN THE CHRONICLE—Just drop us a line or an email and we'll do the rest

Jack and the Beanstalk

This years pantomime at the Civic Centre is Jack and the Beanstalk. Running from the 15th December to the 6th January its stars include Cheryl Baker and Mike Noland from Bucks Fizz, Arthur Bostrom from 'Allo 'Allo, Brian Cant from Playschool and Mix 96's Chris Blumer.

Tickets are available from the box office on 01296 486009.

Farmers Market

October's Aylesbury Farmer's Market is on Tuesday 23rd in Market Square

Aston Abbots & Cublington Ladies Club

Programme For Year October 2001/July 2002

- October 4th** Mrs Jane Gamble. "Travelling with my Great Grandfather"
- October 18th** Mrs Veronica Main "Romance of the Straw Hat"
- November 1st** A.G.M.
- November 15th** Mr Paul Holton "British Waterways"
- November 29th** Mr Roy Collis "The Royal Star & Garter Home"
- December 13th** Social Afternoon
- December 20th** Carol Service, Cublington

Christmas Break

2002

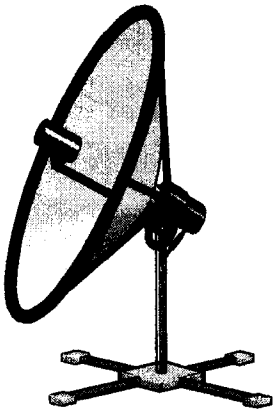
- January 10th** Mr Ian Pearce "Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen"

- January 24th** Mrs Isobel Bartholamew "Botanical Art through the Ages"
- February 7th** Mr Hugh Grainger "Ghost Stories"
- February 21st** Mr G Atkins MBE "Virginia in May"
- March 7th** Spring Lunch
- March 21st** Mrs Barbara Taylor "Nepal, A grandmother goes to Mount Everest"
- April 4th** Social Afternoon
- April 18th** A visit from Miss Whipps
- May 2nd** Mr Barry Oxley, RSPB "Red Kites"
- May 16th** Etherly Gutteridge "Portraiture"
- May 30th** Mr Peter Vernon "Australia, Ayres Rock"
- June 13th** Club Outing
- June 27th** Garden Party

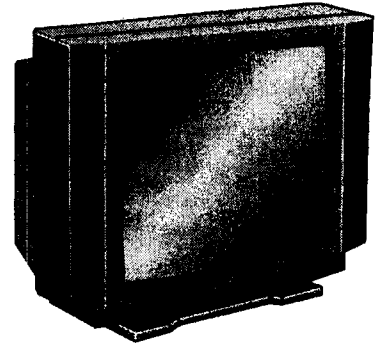
The Ladies Club meet in the Aston Abbots Church Room. New members and visitors are always welcome

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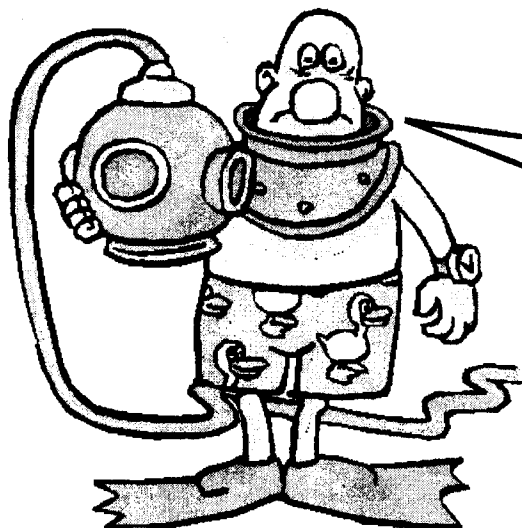
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