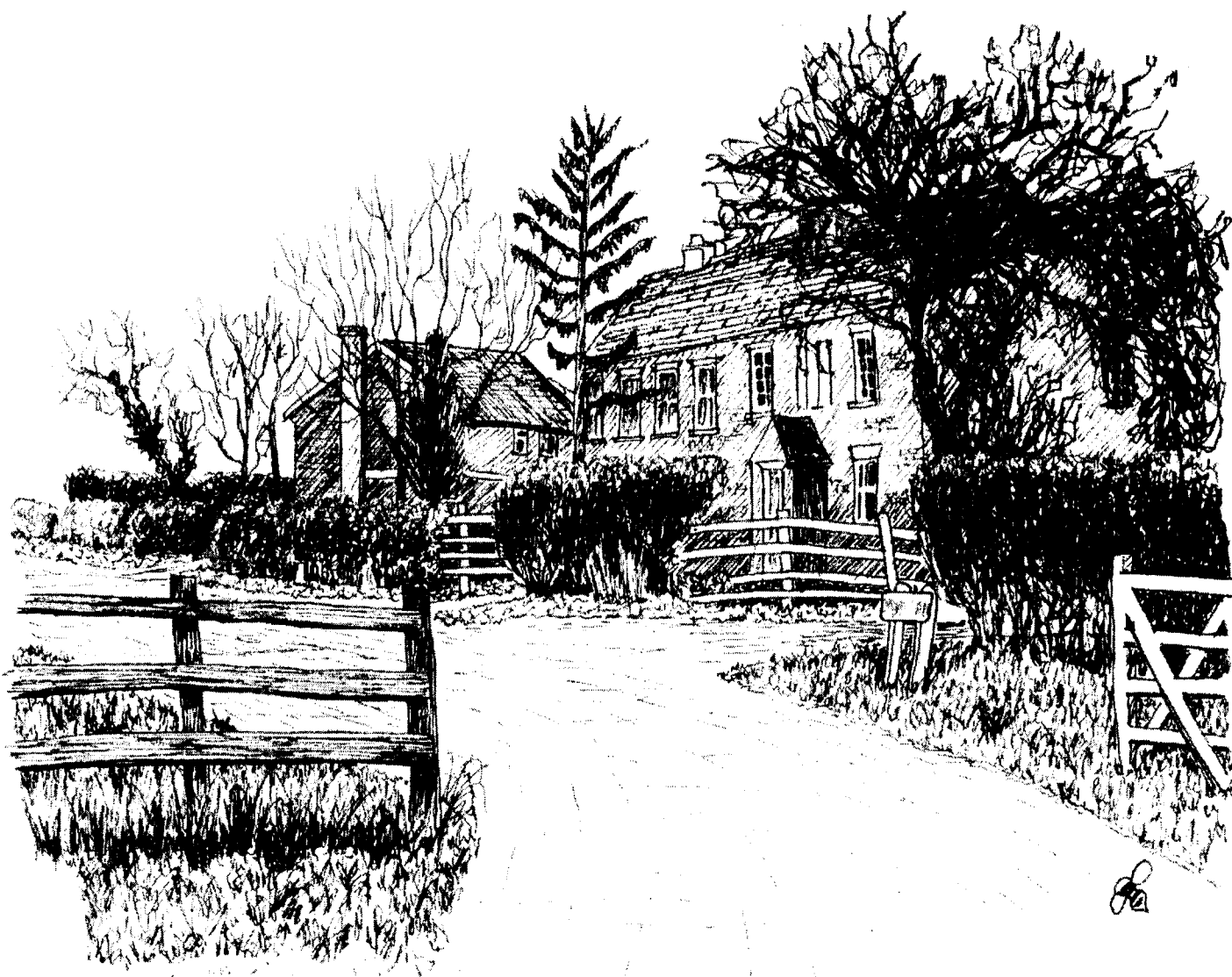


THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 210 ~ March 2002



INSIDE ...

FETE 2002

ASTONBURY 2002

Email : editor@aston-abbotts-chronicle.co.uk

Editorial

Fete 2002

We have the date for this year's Aston Abbots fete. It is ~

Saturday 20th July

There are a few things you might do, which would be of great assistance.

If you have anything to offer as a Raffle Prize then we need these to be offered now please, so that they can be printed on the tickets.

The organisers are on the lookout for craft displays and unusual animals. If you, or someone you know, can demonstrate a craft or show an unusual animal then they would love to hear from you. New attractions are always being sought, so please let us know if you have any ideas for stalls or displays.

It's time to start planting! The plant stall is always very popular and relies entirely upon generous donations from villagers. Please plan your planting now so that we have lots of plants for the stall.

Gifts, Bric-a-Brac, Bottles - Start putting aside bric-a-brac items, and also anything suitable for the gift, household goods and Tombola stalls. These will be collected during the week prior to the fete.

If you can help to run a stall, help with the collection, help set-up and take down on the day, please let us know now so we can plan ahead. If you just wish to help for a part of the time on the day, so you don't miss it all, that's fine as every little helps.

Please contact Barbara Bellingham on 681689 if you can help.

The Crossword

Somebody mentioned to me the other day how much they enjoyed doing the crossword, particularly when the clues have a local connection. It's not the first time a reader has commented upon how much they enjoy it.

Don Bellingham has been compiling and contributing the crossword for many years now and I'd just like to say thank you to him, both from myself and also on behalf of the readers who get so much pleasure out of it.

The crossword always arrives well ahead of time, but sometimes I think it's a miracle that it gets into print at all! First it has to run the gauntlet of the occasional savaging by Don's own dog and then, when it arrives here, our own dogs are just waiting for the opportunity to tear it to shreds. I was once forced to scan it into my computer and redraw the bits where our Ross' teeth had punctured the envelope!

Despite the canine trials and tribulations, it always makes it into print in the end. Thank you Don.

Phil

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 210

March 2002

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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 22nd March 2002

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.

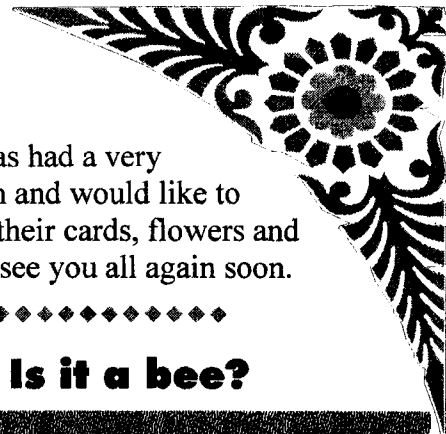
In This Issue

In your March Magazine ~

- ◆ Astonbury Plans
- ◆ Village News
- ◆ Your Letters
- ◆ Tails from Portugal
- ◆ Aston Abbots Curling Championships
- ◆ Celery Soup Recipe
- ◆ A Sundream Holiday

and much, much more.....

The Peoples Page



Happy Birthday

Isobel Hall	3rd
Claire Biddle	8th
Andy Bystra	8th
Paul Williams	9th
Andrew Dutton	10th
Ross Macgregor	13th
Lydia Smith	15th
Ann Goodman	15th
Abby Louise Bowden	16th
Tracey Fletcher	17th
Francesca Osborne	19th
Ray Coates	22nd
Charlotte Ellis	26th
Bob Bean	30th
George Brandon	31st

Anne Brancker has had a very successful operation and would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers and kind wishes. She'll see you all again soon.



Is it a bird? Is it a bee?



Yes—it's A Bee! Our very own Andy Bystra has a "special" birthday in March.

Andy works hard for The Chronicle each month: writing articles, typing up hand-written items, providing the cover drawings, delivering and fetching The Chronicle from the printers, and organising the distribution. I am most grateful to him for all of his hard work and assistance and I'd just like to say a big *Thanks Andy—and a very Happy Birthday!*

Sadly, I am unable to reveal the nature of Andy's special birthday, and I have been strictly forbidden from disclosing his age. I have no wish of offending him, so his secret is safe with me.

Oh, by the way Andy—I nearly forgot—you might like to check out the article on free bus passes, which is on page 17.

~ Phil Spooner



Mr William Parker

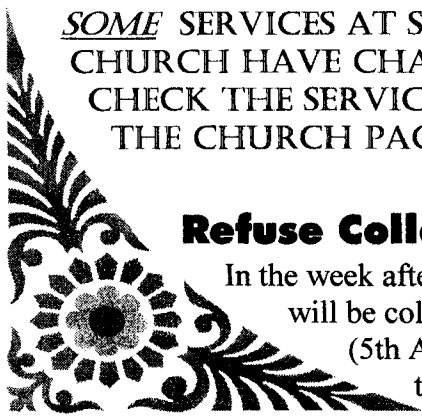
We were very sorry to hear of the recent death of Mr William Parker. Our Sympathy is extended to his family and friends on their sad loss.

Please see Colin's article on page 5.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TIMES OF SOME SERVICES AT ST JAMES' CHURCH HAVE CHANGED. PLEASE CHECK THE SERVICE TIMES ON THE CHURCH PAGE.

Refuse Collection

In the week after Easter the rubbish will be collected on Friday (5th April) instead of on the Thursday.



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- 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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In The Village

Do You Want To Buy The Bull?

Smith + Latimer, the agents handling the redevelopment of the Bull and Butcher, have written to the Parish Council formally offering to sell the pub to the village. The plan with the letter appears to show that the offer is to sell just the front part of the building. There have been schemes in other villages where a number of residents have grouped together as a cooperative to buy and operate a pub under threat.

Unfortunately this letter arrived after last month's Chronicle had gone to press and the 28 day deadline for responses will have passed by the time you read this. However, if you would like to know more, or if you wish to register an interest, please contact a member of the Parish Council *as soon as possible*. Contact numbers can be found in the list of Council members printed elsewhere in The Chronicle, or in the Aston Abbots telephone list opposite the What's On page.

~ Phil Spooner

Mr William Parker

Mr William Parker, 86, one of our oldest original residents, died in hospital at the beginning of February

He was born at 9 Wingrave Cottages and educated at the village school. Then at the age of 16 he worked with his brother, Alfred, on their fathers farm, Red Barn, on the Cublington Road, until his retirement 24 years ago, when he and Alf moved round the corner to Longmoor bungalow.

William's interests were local affairs, reading and he was a member of the Methodist Chapel. During the war years, he also served with the Home Guard. He leaves a brother, niece and nephew.

The funeral took place on Thursday February 7th at Weedon Methodist Chapel, followed by interment at Aston Abbots.

~ Colin Higgs

Pancake Day At The Church Room

Although having to cram in a visit between a visit to the library van and taking the grandchildren to see an early showing of 'Monsters Inc.', it was clear that the 'Pancake Coffee morning' was quite popular. It certainly provided a welcome mid morning break for me although I have to say I was a little disappointed not to find the ladies involved cooking and tossing fresh pancakes. The 'pre-made' pancakes provided with the coffee were very nice but for a 'traditionalist' like me; not the same. However, there was a very nice, social atmosphere with lots of 'chat' and 'banter'.



Church Service Changes

From March, services at St James' Church will be altered to 10 am on alternate Sundays, normally the second and fourth Sunday of the month. First and third Sundays will remain at 11 am.

The Rev Bob Willmott hopes more people will benefit from the earlier start.

~ Colin Higgs

Saturday July 13th 2002

It's official – Astonbury 2002 goes ahead on Saturday 13th July 2002. So no excuses this year – we've given you all PLENTY of notice!

Once again Ann, Dickie, Rob and Amanda have very kindly volunteered to host the village's premiere outdoors music event in the stunning surrounds of Norduck House.

For newer villagers and those with a short memory, Astonbury started in 2000 as a "party in the park" musical showcase. Amateur musicians and singers from Aston Abbots and surrounding villages take to the stage to perform a wide variety of popular songs from all music eras. The standards are exceptionally high and the entertainment top class, not to mention top value.

Last year more than 200 villagers and friends gathered on the slopes of Norduck House, picnics spread before them, to enjoy three hours of music and fun. Even the light rain couldn't dampen the party spirits as we danced into the late evening twilight. All of the money raised goes directly to village causes.

Over the coming months we'll tell you more about this year's Astonbury festival but we are aiming for record numbers this year so planning for the event has already begun. The festival planning team has met and tasks have been assigned – needless to say, we are looking for loads of volunteers to help with all manner of things before and during Astonbury. The team is

Festival Co-ordinator	Andi Swain	Telephone	682651
Musical Directors	Neil Chesher	"	681201
	Nigel Palmer	"	681152

Finance

John Whyte

Technical Management

Andy Stefanczyk, Bob Bean,
Dave Lewis and Lol Hinds

Sponsorship and
Merchandising

Andi Swain, John Brancker, Bob Bean

Reporting and PR

Phil Spooner

It's early days, but Neil and Nigel have already started on the musical content and are keen to hear from any of you who would like to take to the stage – solo singers, groups and musicians. They are especially keen to find some young male singers for this year so if you are a budding Gareth Gates or Will Young, give them a ring.

Andi is co-ordinating and this year we will need lots and lots of volunteers so please give him a ring straightaway if you would like to help out. There is a wide range of tasks to perform – something for everyone! It's great fun being involved with Astonbury.

Sponsorship Opportunities

For the first time, we are making a limited number of sponsorship opportunities available to local businesses. If you would like to be associated with this massively popular event and promote yourself to hundreds of local people, give Andi Swain a ring on 01296 682651 to talk about the options.

LOOK OUT FOR MORE ASTONBURY DETAILS IN
THE CHRONICLE OVER THE COMING MONTHS

ASTONBURY 2002 – EVEN BIGGER!

~ Andi Swain

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Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir,

I am a resident in Aston Abbotts and have been following, with some interest, the saga concerning the possible loss of the Bull & Butcher. I am very sad, as are the majority of people in the village at the thought of losing this wonderful pub but I realise that like an awful lot of people living in Aston Abbotts, I never used it on a regular enough basis. This is something I now regret. Villagers cannot expect to keep the Bull if they are not prepared to regularly support it with their custom. The pub itself is not a charity.

Sadly, the same lack of villager support is evident in our church, save the few in number who do attend regularly. I freely admit that I do not attend St James anywhere near as much as I should, but I make the effort to go at least once in a while. I wonder if those villagers who are concerned about losing the Bull & Butcher are at all concerned about losing the church.

Cheryl Lee

Absolutely. The phrase "Use it or lose it" may be a bit of a cliché, but it is so true. The picture above shows how the matter was reported in the Bucks Herald.

As Cheryl points out, it applies not just to the Bull and Butcher, but also to other village facilities: The Church, The Royal Oak, the Old Masters, the shop—and the organised events and meetings.

Use them all—or lose them! ~ Ed

Dear Phil,

You asked for ideas on how the village could celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

How about these ideas?—

1. A village party/picnic where everyone brings along their own food, tables and chairs and even barbecues. It could be held on the recreation ground where there is already a play area for the under five's. Games such as five aside football, races or rounders could easily be organised. A fancy dress competition for different age groups; perhaps with prizes for each group.
2. It would be nice if we were able to give a commemorative item such as a mug or spoon to children of school age. I believe there are village funds to help with village projects.
3. The day could finish with a bonfire on Lines Hill or the recreation ground.

Of course I do realise helpers would be needed.

Yours sincerely

Shirley Ford

Good ideas Shirley. A news item on TV said that nobody was too interested in 1977's silver jubilee until after Easter, so I'm hoping that there will be some more interest in the village then. Time is running out... ~ Ed

ASTON ABBOTTS / Landlord complains over lack of custom and says he has run out of options

'Use the pub or lose it'

by Tim Green

THE landlord of a pub in Aston Abbotts has said he has run out of options and is now being forced to close it.

Frank Atkinson, who has run the Bull and Butcher for 20 years, said he has run out of options and is now being forced to close it.

Atkinson said he has run the Bull and Butcher for 20 years, but has run out of options and is now being forced to close it.

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PLEASE NOT SUPPORT Bull and Butcher

28 The Green, Aston Abbotts

Dear Editor

Reading your piece on WD-40 brought a rather nice memory back—back to 1975 as a matter of fact.

I was staying with my daughter in law in Kent for a few days and we had decided to go shopping. So there we were, my grandson 3 years old in the back seat, my daughter in law with car bonnet up fiddling about, and myself in the passenger seat. Suddenly my grandson said, "Get the magic can out Mum". Nothing happened, daughter in law still fiddling, so again came the yell, "Get the magic can out. I can tell you where it is".

Suddenly Sandie appeared with a can. Started spraying and—*Hey Presto*—the engine started. My grandson gave me a sweet smile and said, You must keep the magic can handy Nan". I had never heard of WD-40, had no idea what was under the bonnet of a car, and never learned to drive!

Doris Turner

Schools Promotions Update

For those of you who read last month's article on schools promotions, can I now also ask you to donate your Tesco Computers for Schools vouchers to Wingrave CE School. They can be collected until 7 April and are issued for every £10 spent in a single transaction in any Tesco store, petrol station, tesco.com online grocery shop and wine warehouse. By collecting these vouchers the school can exchange them for free computer equipment.

So to recap, the school is collecting the following:

- Walkers Free Books for Schools tokens
- Nestle Box Tops for Education tokens
- Tesco Computers for Schools vouchers

Thank you all in anticipation.

Sondra Dickason, No 1 Abbey Cottages, Moat Lane, 682249

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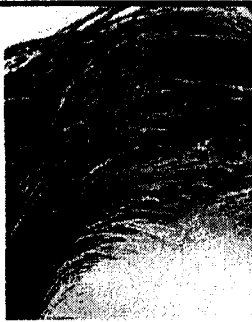
adrian.bystra@talk21.com

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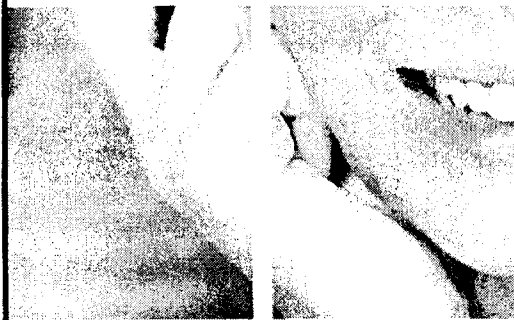
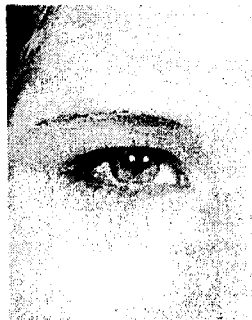
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Restaurant Review—Riviera

We had a thoroughly enjoyable time at the Riviera Restaurant (formerly known as the Boathouse, now under new management) by the lake at Watermead one evening in January. The location is lovely with the lights of Watermead glittering across and reflected in the lake - possibly the most attractive way of seeing Watermead. To find it turn left towards the ski slope before you reach the lake, leave your car in the ample parking area and walk across a foot bridge.

The decor is very pleasing - simple, modern and unfussy with a few focal points such as paintings and a bubble machine. The new owner is Iranian, although he has lived in Aylesbury for many years, so some of the dishes on the menu reflect an Eastern Mediterranean or North African influence, such as humous. For those with less adventurous palates there are plenty of options of a more European nature. As we were a party of eight, we sampled between us quite a wide selection of what was on offer and nobody had anything but praise for what they had eaten.

Prices were reasonable, the wine list more than adequate and the service pleasant and efficient but not rushed. All in all, we can only recommend that you try it for yourselves - we considered it worth a good four Abbots (out of a possible five)!

~ Clare Shorrock

The AA Curling Championships

Following the Olympic Gold medal success of the British Team, entries are invited from teams of four to enter the inaugural Aston Abbots Curling Championships, which it is hoped to hold in July this year on the day of the village fete. The organisers are looking for a modest level of local sponsorship as they are rather short of equipment. First of all we are looking for a suitable site for a rink that should be approximately level and at least 30 yards long. We plan to flood this with water and hope that it freezes when we have a heavy frost. Unfortunately this does mean that the event will probably take place at three in the morning when most potential spectators would be tucked up in bed.

We could also do with three or four brooms and eight granite stones. Perhaps someone might have some spare ones holding up an old Dutch barn? In addition we are looking for eight saucepan handles and a volunteer to attach them to the stones. Finally we could do with some blue and red paint and six-inch brushes to paint targets on the ice. We recognise that the British weather cannot be relied upon and so in the unlikely event that it is unsuitable on the day there will be a tie breaker competition. The prize will go to the team member attending the village fete who looks most like Hilda Ogdén.

~ Nigel Palmer

Wildlife Project Volunteer

Buckinghamshire Community Action are seeking a volunteer to help with the preparation of a rural projects handbook. The work would include research and contact with environmental and community organisations via the internet. Basic IT skills would be an advantage. The project will take place in January and will be based at our offices in Aylesbury. This opportunity would clearly suit those with an interest in wildlife and the countryside as well as those seeking to extend their office and IT skills. If you would like to learn more about the project, please contact Francis Gomme on 01296 421036.

Recipe—Celery Soup

Margaret Kent has sent us a recipe that I can certainly vouch for, as I've eaten and thoroughly enjoyed it - and I'm not keen on celery! ~ Ed

Ingredients

- 1½ oz butter
- 1 Head of celery, finely chopped
- 1 onion, peeled and finely chopped
- 1 rasher bacon (streaky), chopped
- 1 oz flour
- 1 pint of chicken stock
- ½ pint of milk
- Pinch of caster sugar
- Salt and black pepper
- Pinch of grated nutmeg
- 5 tablespoons of single cream

Method

Melt butter in a large saucepan and lightly cook the celery, onion and bacon until softened but not brown. Stir in the flour and cook for one minute. Stir in the stock, bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes. Puree in a processor or blender and pour into a clean saucepan. Heat thoroughly, stirring in 4 tablespoons of cream, but do not allow to boil. Serve with the remaining cream and garnish with a little grated cheese.

If you are going to freeze it, do not add the cream to the basic recipe until you are ready to use it.

~ Margaret Kent

Many thanks to Margaret for the recipe, If you have a favourite recipe, why not send it in to the Chronicle and share it with Aston Abbots. Contact details are on page 2. ~ Ed

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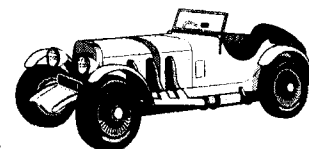
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Tails from Portugal

Tails - oops! Sorry - Tales from Coja in Portugal

To Our Dear Friends Mulberry (miss you), Buster, Hamish, Ross, Rory, Misty, Jester, Toffee, Seth, especially our special horses Charles, and the 3 B's and any other of our doggy friends - this is for onward transmission to the humanoids

I have decided to put paw to paper and bring you up to date with things here in Coja. My brother and I have acclimatised ourselves extremely well to our new (WARMER) environment. We are now doubly indulged - not only by our owners, but also by our kind hosts, Elaine and Ben, with whom we are staying whilst our Kennel - (slip of the paw there) - our master and mistress's house is being built, in the next village to here, a place called Anseriz.

One of the human's friends called in recently together with two dogs (to be precise two bitches), it did put a smile on an old man's face. One was taller than I, long legged, rather nice looking, similar to a smooth coated collie, mainly black with white patches. I established she is 7 years old, although she looked much younger, with a very nice disposition. She is of unknown parentage and is also on the pill. We all got on extremely well. The other one was an unruly whipper snapper!! Young thing all of 14 weeks old. A golden labrador, looked like one of those out of the Andrex advert. Legs up to her armpits and will be an extremely nice looking hound when she grows up. However she liked my ears too much and also Jacko's. Just a suitable growl in the right place corrected her, but she will, I feel, be a bit of a handful initially. Typical of her age, she rushed round like a whirlwind one minute and the next was crashed out on the floor, fast asleep. However, I feel she will grow into something rather special.

Jacko was in his mistress's bad books the other day - the swimming pool was too much of an attraction and he succumbed. My mistress resembled a raving banshee - using expletives I could not possibly repeat here. Whilst it was simple enough for him to go skinny dipping, it was more difficult to get out because there is only a rung ladder and Jacko has not mastered the art of it yet. Given time I am sure he will. He was somewhat subdued, but I expect may well not have learned his lesson.

The 630 club is thriving with all of three members and another two will be coming on board (plus any of the locals in Senor Albano's bar at the time). The bar prices are not quite the same as the Bull or Royal Oak, for example 3 beers, 6 glasses of wine (overflowing), 2 treble ports, and one large coffee - Cost 4.99 euros, 100 escudos or £3.20. EUROS (that's a word not found in Tony Blair's vocabulary, isn't it?).

My master says to all 630 members in AA from 630 members in Coja - HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Enough of my ramblings, I must go on cat patrol around the garden. Licks and barks from us and fond regards from the humans. From the 2 four footers.

~ Jacko and Nelson Coates

The above article should have been printed in the February edition of The Chronicle, but brain failure on the part of your editor prevented this and I apologise to Jackie for leaving it out. There is a further instalment of Tails from Portugal on page 15.

"To write a diary every day is like returning to one's own vomit." ~ Enoch Powell.



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A Sundream Holiday—Part 3

Shirley and Andrew continue the story of their cruise.

Friday 23rd Nov.

Today was to be a lazy day at sea. No trips, so time to enjoy the facilities on board. The two main lounges doubled up as entertainment venues during the day with sufficient flexibility to be a cinema, ballroom for dancing lessons, a gym for 'keep fit' or a very pleasant places in which to play Bridge or listen to a variety of talks. This particular evening was to be rather more formal than usual with the men encouraged to wear evening dress and the ladies invited to dress as glamorously as they could.

Saturday 24th

Andrew and I enjoyed an early breakfast as the Sundream docked at Key West Florida. By 9.00 am., most had left the ship for various destinations. We were among them, having decided to take the 'road train' around the island. Our driver come tour guide filled us in on it's history and took us to places of interest such as Ernest Hemingway's House and several grand mansions built by pirates and 'wreckers'. These were men who would take to their boats and loot ships foundering on a reef just off that part of the coast. The 'wrecker's' houses had towers built into their roofs so that they could watch the coastline.

Key West is the most southerly point in the USA. and is a sub-tropical island. During our tour we a large variety of trees such as banana, papaya, lime, 'chewing gum' banyan, and cork. There were also poincetter trees and bougainvillea . The tour ended with a visit to the Key West Aquarium where there were tanks of all sorts of fish, crabs and small marine life. In the pools we saw logger head turtles, sting rays, sharks, and even small whales. It was an excellent aquarium.

Stopping at a local market we were able to buy a few presents to take home and enjoy a much needed ice cream and ice cold drink. Having made a fairly early start, we were back on board in time for a late lunch after which we relaxed around the pool. However, we were suddenly made aware that something was happening on the dock side. There was indeed since a number of entertainers had appeared and were amusing visitors with fire eating, tricks on uni-cycles, and escapology. Also, 'out of the

blue' had sprung up several small stalls selling just about everything you could imagine; there was even one offering palmistry. This carried on for some time but we had to get ready for dinner. However just before going in to eat we (and hundreds of people stood on the dock side) watched a truly beautiful sunset over Key West harbour. As the sun finished setting the musicians started to play and continued to do so for the entire evening. We had had another lovely day.

Sunday 25th

This was to be another day relaxing at sea,; reading, sun bathing, eating and the occasional stroll around the decks.

Evening meals were always enjoyable, already, three times this past week, the waiters in the restaurant had sung to us earning great applause. When they knew some one was celebrating a birthday or anniversary, a group of waiters with guitars would sing an appropriate song and present the celebrants with a cake

Monday 26th

It was 7.30 am., and the weather was already warm as we sailed into Freeport, Grand Bahama Island. We berthed alongside a huge ship cruise ship called 'Fantasy'. Once ashore and aboard our mini-bus, it became clear that the island was quite affluent. The houses and bungalows looked very well made, the roads were good and their bus shelters looked rather like little white, pink and green 'summer houses'.

We were taken to a beautiful beach of pure white sand, crystal clear blue sea, palm trees, lounge's and hammocks. If you were inclined to be energetic there were sports facilities such as volley ball, base ball, table tennis and a host of water sports. However, we were rather taken by the restaurant and bar on the beach shaped like an old pirate ship where we enjoyed a jolly good barbecue lunch.

Returning to the ship, we were greeted by reggae music being played on the dockside and they continued to play until we sailed at 6.00. The day was rounded off by a few of our dining companions and ourselves spending the rest of the evening in the 'South Pacific' lounge where we enjoyed the cabaret which included a brilliant banjo player.

~ Shirley Ford

WINGRAVE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION **QUIZ NIGHT**

SATURDAY 16th March 2002
In the school hall
Doors/Bar open from 7.00pm
For 7.30pm start

TICKETS £ 7-50
incl. meal

Tickets from Wingrave Village Shop/School Office
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Maximum 8 per team
Individuals welcome
We look forward to seeing you.

Directory of Voluntary Organisations 2001

This is valuable directory is available now from Kim Whitbread, Community Care Information Officer at Buckinghamshire Community Action- Priced £5, order yours now!

Stepping Stone Fund Consignia has launched the Stepping Stone Fund with £250,000 and a different theme is considered each year. This year's awards are for small, locally based projects designed to help adults (aged 16 or over) with writing skills- Applications are especially welcomed from groups in rural areas. Funds are for new projects, not core costs like staffing or rent. Deadline is 4th March 2002.

Contact: Stepping Stone Fund, Consignia, 148 Old Street, London EC 1 V 9HQ Tel : 020 7250 2243
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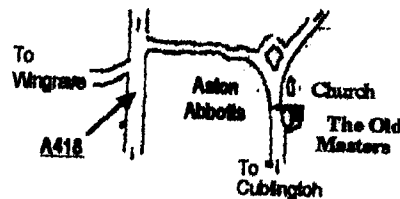
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Further Tails from Portugal.....

Well barks and licks from us both and hello from the humanoids. We had to visit the vets for our booster injections and saw a very nice man. Gave us the once over and we both passed with flying colours - he even managed to get my medicine that I need for my arthritis!

Listening to our mum and dad talking, it would appear that the transfer from escudos to euros has caused some consternation among the local Portuguese - apparently the supermarket shopping has taken considerably longer because the locals insist on triple checking their change at the check out.

Our new kennel (sorry Pine Tops) is moving along. They are excavating the ground at the moment and digging down about 2 metres in order to level the site - then it rained for a couple of days, so the building site resembles a bit of a mud bath. Our mum and dad visit the site every day to keep in touch with the progress being made.

In the garden we do have a creature resembling a tiger (actually it is a big ginger tom - looks a bit like Bagpuss, he is called Veggie). He is extremely vocal and has a harem of about four females. Whilst he is fed by the household, he is not allowed inside as he tends to do what tom cats do best - enough said. He can pack a hefty punch and landed one on my ear which was sore for a couple of days. However we have reached a compromise and Jacko and I allow him into the kitchen to eat his food. However sometimes the tendency is for me to give chase - must keep him on his toes!

The 630 Club is doing well with 5 members and anyone else hovering in the vicinity at around 6:30 on a Saturday evening. Mum and Day are going to school (yes, we are being serious) to learn Portuguese so we will keep you posted on their progress.

We will close now as we have to do our moggy patrol and Jacko has to collect his pine cones and grotty looking lemons which have fallen off the tree because of the heavy frosts we had a couple of weeks ago.

Will put paw to paper again soon - regards to all at AA from us all at Villa Laura where it is sunny and warm.

~ Jacko and Nelson Coates

Posh and Becks' New Baby

The recent news that David and Victoria Beckham are expecting an addition to the family has prompted much press speculation about the name they will give to the new infant. Their first-born was named Brooklyn after the New York borough within which he was conceived. It was suggested that it might be named "Bench" as that is where David spent most of December. However, our intrepid reporter noted that their posh home is located in Cheshire. Does this mean that the new sprog will be named "Chesh"?

~ Nigel Palmer

Jumble Sale

Thanks to everyone who supported the Wingrave Scouts Jumble Sale that took place on Saturday 23 February. We raised a total of £176.87, some 10% up on last year.

~ Nigel Palmer

"Bachelors know more about women than married men do. If they didn't, they'd be married too." ~ HL Mencken.

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- ⇒ 31. Dansak Queen - Abba
- ⇒ 30. Korma People - Pulp
- ⇒ 29. Tikka Chance On Me - Abba
- ⇒ 28. When I Phall in Love - Nat King Cole
- ⇒ 27. You Can't Curry Love - Diana Ross and the Supremes
- ⇒ 26. Korma Police - Radiohead
- ⇒ 25. Things Can Only Get Bhuna - D:Ream
- ⇒ 24. Tears On My Pilau - Kylie Minogue
- ⇒ 23. It's Bhuna Hard Days Night - The Beatles
- ⇒ 22. Brothers in Naans - Dire Straits
- ⇒ 21. Girlfriend in a Korma - The Smiths
- ⇒ 20. Pilau Talk - Doris Day
- ⇒ 19. It's My Chapati and I Cry If I Want To - Dave Stewart/Barbara Gaskin
- ⇒ 18. I'm a Bhaji Girl - Aqua
- ⇒ 17. Sag Aloo - Black lace
- ⇒ 16. Take That and Chapati - Take That
- ⇒ 15. Bhuna Round The World and I Can't Find My Bhaji—Lisa Stansfield
- ⇒ 14. I Don't Want To Dansak - Eddie Grant
- ⇒ 13. Dansak on the Ceiling - Lionel Richie
- ⇒ 12. We Are Jalfrezi - Sister Sledge
- ⇒ 11. Vindaloo - Abba
- ⇒ 10. I Don't Want to Go to Chutney - Elvis Costello
- ⇒ 9. Rice Rice Baby - Vanilla Rice
- ⇒ 8. Jalfrezi Jalfrezi Nights - Kiss
- ⇒ 7. Tandoori Deliver - Adam and the Ants
- ⇒ 6. Love me Tandoor - Elvis Presley
- ⇒ 5. We Don't Have to Tikka Clothes Off - Jermaine Jackson
- ⇒ 4. Bye Bye Balti - Bay City Rollers
- ⇒ 3. Bhuna to be Wild - Steppenwolf
- ⇒ 2. Livin' Dhal - Cliff Richard
- ⇒ 1. Raita Here, Raita Now - Fatboy Slim

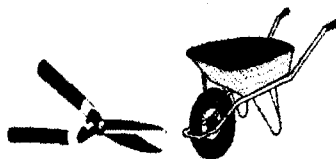
~ Submitted by Paul Williams

Annual Parish Meeting

This is a public village meeting (not a Parish Council meeting) to discuss matters affecting the village. It will be held on Wednesday 24th April at 8 pm in the Church Room. All welcome.

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Police Advice ~ Who's At The Door?

**THAMES VALLEY
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Always answer every call. Doors are never too thick to talk through - call out through the letter box.

Have a chain fitted to your front door. Make sure it is in position before you open the door. It is a good idea to have a light fitted outside the front door, so that you can see the callers at night.

Door chains are available which can be morticed into the door - making the fitting as strong as the door itself. These are automatic in operation - you don't have to remember to put them on - and are released at a press of a switch. Operation of this type of chain has considerable advantages for the elderly or very young, who may have difficulty with conventional fittings. Don't leave the door chain on all the time.

A door viewer is useful, because you can see who is outside without opening the door. If you have one fitted, make sure that it is at a height that is convenient for you.

Bogus callers

Think before you open the door. Put the chain on.

1. Check to see who they are - use the door viewer.
2. Ask if you don't know them "Who are you? What do you want?"
3. Ask to see their identity card - Check carefully. Keep the chain on.

4. Note the name, company and telephone number. If you are unsure request the caller to return.
5. Check them out by phoning their company. Arrange for a friend or relative to be present when they return.

Next months' article will be about "Bogus Traders"

In the last few months a number of garages have been broken into, in the surrounding villages, so make sure windows are fitted with locks. Garage doors should be lockable or secured by padlocks. Where integral doors are used for entry from the garage into the house, a simple method of security for up and over doors is to drill a hole in the top channel above the wheels and insert a padlock into the hole. This prevents the wheel moving above the padlock so keeping the door closed during forced entry. If there is no internal door from the garage to the house then the up and over doors can be secured by an outer bracket and floor eyelet welded or bolted to the bottom of the door and secured by a padlock inserted into the floor eyelet.

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*

Bus Passes, Rail Cards And Taxi Tokens



Photos needed for new bus pass

This year we are introducing a life long bus pass. Once you have this pass you will not need to renew it again unless the rules for the scheme change or you lose or damage it in some way.

To obtain your new bus pass you **MUST** bring along two **RECENT** passport sized photos in black and white or colour. You must still also bring with you identification that confirms that you are eligible for the

scheme e.g. a state retirement pension book, birth certificate, disability certificate.

The rules for whether you are entitled to a bus pass have not changed — men over 65 and women over 60 and disabled people can obtain the free bus pass.

The bus passes, rail cards and taxi tokens will be on sale from Monday 4 March.

In Aylesbury, there are several booths from where you can obtain passport sized photos:

- Boots in Hale Leys
- The Post Office in the High Street
- Aylesbury railway station
- Footbridge linking Friars Square shopping centre with

the multi-storey car parks

In Buckingham, Budgens has a photo booth.

The passes, cards and tokens will be on sale from our Customer Service Centre in Aylesbury, and Winslow and Buckingham area offices from 4th March. They will also be available from The Committee Room in Wing on Wednesday 20th March between 2 and 4 pm only.

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Rectors Report

There are some organisations that seem to work in theory, but they are less satisfactory when it comes to putting the theory into practice.

In theory it is a good idea to completely renew the membership list of the Church every six years. But, of course we must not call it a 'membership list'. It is the Church Electoral Roll. Because there are those who can become members who need not be on the Church Electoral Roll, and others who are on the Roll but who do not count themselves as members. The complete renewal of the Roll does give us the opportunity to make sure that the names of those who have moved away or died have been removed, and that we have not missed those who really should be included.

The question is always asked: "Does the number on the Church Electoral Roll make a difference to the amount we have to pay to the Diocese?" The answer to that is both "yes" and "no". For the money that we pay to the Diocese is now a contribution towards the cost of the Clergy. That cost has to include training, housing and pension as well as a "stipend".

Even though the Church of England derives income from its land and investments, that income is now far short of the amount needed to fund the cost of the clergy at today's level.

So, as well as renewing its membership list, the Church of England is also currently consulting about how much the clergy should receive (and should this be on the basis of being "payment for the exercise of office" rather than a "maintenance allowance"), and whether the pension scheme should change from being notionally "final salary" to "money purchase".

One way of looking at being on the Church Electoral Roll is that you are prepared to help pay for the services of the full-time clergy. We are extremely fortunate here in that we also have the services of clergy for whom we are not required to

pay. But the Church Electoral Roll is also the qualification for membership of the Parochial Church Council, and for the election of those who represent the parish on the Deanery Synod. Those on the Deanery Synod elect their representatives to the Diocesan Synod and ultimately to the General Synod.

That is how it works in theory! It is all up to (or down to) you!

~ Bob Willmott

From Mark Berry - Deanery Youth Worker

It is, finally, good to be living here amongst you all in this lovely part of the country. Louisa and I have received a warm welcome from both churches and the local community and we would like to thank you all, especially those who were able to attend/contribute to the commissioning service.

We arrived in the Deanery some three weeks ago from Reading where I worked as Bradfield Deanery Youth Work Facilitator. All the way through the process I have been struck by the humility and genuine desire to see young people come to know and develop in their faith in Jesus. It is this challenge that brings us here and the enthusiasm from church, clergy and the young people to really address it in a radical and exciting way and not just to fiddle around the edges.

It is widely recognised, by Church and secular observers that the culture in which we, and in particular young people live is one where spirituality is seen as something to be searched for, however, on the whole the Church is the last place deemed to be worth looking! This is a source of great sadness to me, but has also brought about a desire to see young people leading us forward to make real contact with the needs of those outside the Church. Ideas such as Spiritual journey and pilgrimage have become common both in those seeking to see the church grow and in the wider community. These terms speak of process, discovery and creativity, it is unreal to expect or even desire instant conformity, culturally or theologically. Bishop Mike Hill once said, that we are often tempted to plant church structures and invite people to join, instead of planting the Gospel and nurturing the church that emerges. In some ways this is a definition of 'emerging church', church that grows, and continues to grow from the real situation of the people, community. I see the role of leadership within this model of church as friend, fellow pilgrim, and mentor. My desire, both in my relationship with the churches and in the development of a 'Youth Congregation' is to be alongside you and the young people in this way.

Already in the short time I have been here, it has been possible to develop strong contacts and opportunities in the Churches, with the GROW Youth Group and its leaders, in Cottesloe School, with Local Authority Youth Workers and the wider community. I am extremely excited about the future of this project; we have some very gifted young people who are going to make a significant contribution to our Church, Deanery and to the Kingdom of God.

I ask for your prayers for them and for all that God would have us do.

~ Mark Berry - 01296 682069 - mail@mark-berry.co.uk

"The important question is, how many hands have I shaken?"

~ George W Bush.

THE CHRONICLE

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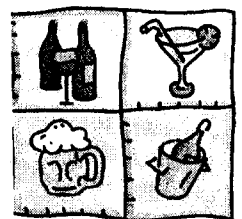
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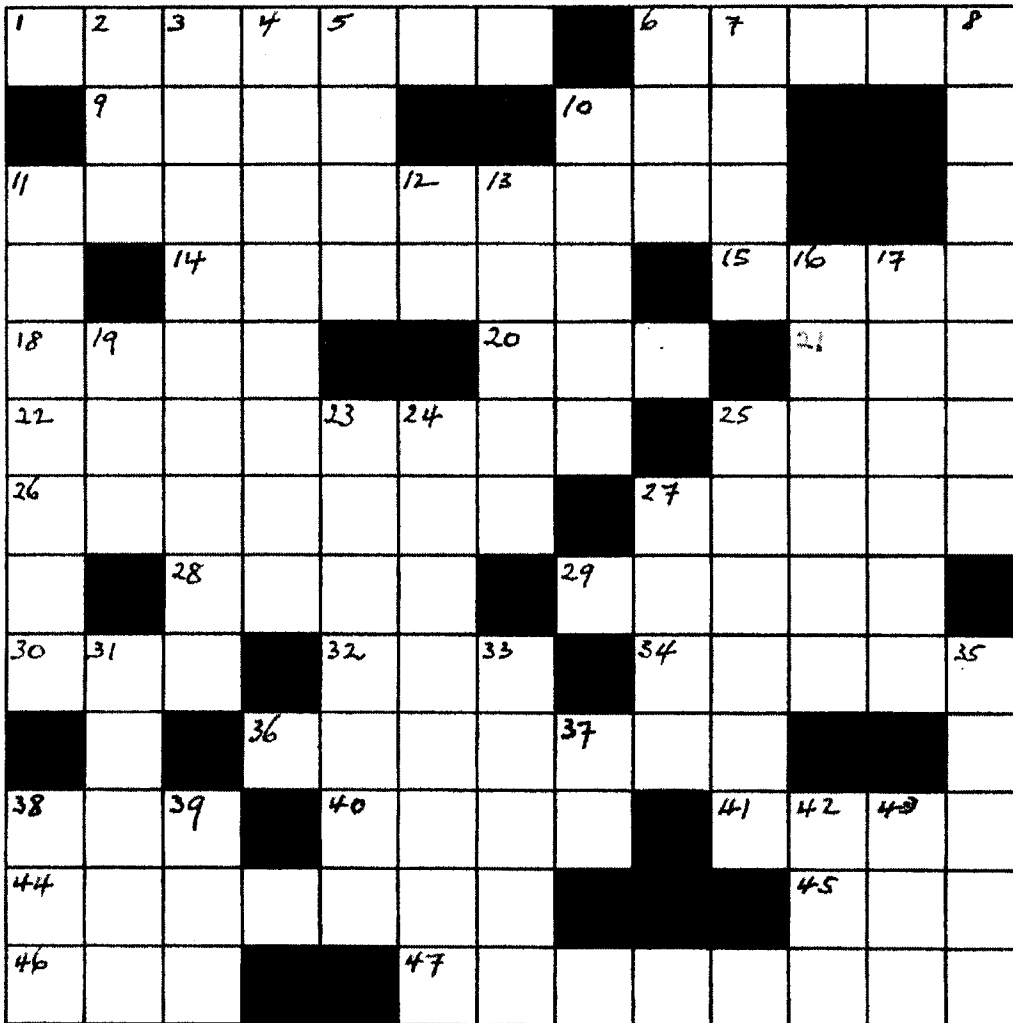
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The Chronicle Crossword

March 2002



Answers to February.

ACROSS:

1&1down. Hemel Hempstead. 5 Samba. 10 Even. 11 Italica. 13 Meningitis. 15 Prudence. 16 Eden. 19 WI. 20 Frame. 21 Teas. 25 Time. 26 MBE. 27 Ensure. 29 Whelp. 31 Astro. 33 Duels. 34 Eons. 38 Eyrthoma. 40 Get. 42 Eolith. 44 Severs. 45 Toad. 47 Dram.

DOWN:

2 Ever. 3 Menu. 4 Enid. 5 Sate. 6 All. 7 Miser. 8 BC. 9 Assembly. 11 Ignite. 12 Tic. 14 New. 17 Dame. 18 Neep. 20 Few. 22 Ensure. 23 Aster. 24 Surly. 28 Roster. 30 His. 32 Peel. 35 Omits. 36 NATO. 37 Storm. 39 Hose. 41 Ass. 43 Had. 46 Dr.

ACROSS:

- 1&8 down. Local Village (7/7)
- 6. INCUR (an. 5)
- 9. Wartime Concert party (4)
- 10. Atmosphere (3)
- 11. Flower (10)
- 14. Indian spice (6)
- 15. Influence (4)
- 18. To skin (4)
- 20. Cover (3)
- 21. Concealed (3)
- 22. Faith (8)
- 25. Note (4)
- 26. REGALLY (an.7)

- 27. Italian town (5)
- 28. Ireland (poetic 4)
- 29. Boy's name (5)
- 30. Ancient (3)
- 32. For cars annually (3)
- 34. Circles (5)
- 36. Rotting flesh (7)
- 38. Rest (3)
- 40. Son of Abel (4)
- 41. Departed (4)
- 44. Gift. (7)
- 45. Constrictor (3)
- 46. Girl's name (3)
- 47. Part of divided house (8)

DOWN: 2. Number (3)

- 3. NAMED ELLE (an. 9)
- 4. Tree trained to grow on wall (9)
- 5. Walks softly (4)
- 6. - - - de Janeiro (3)
- 7. Vases (4)
- 10. Once more (5)
- 11. High singing voice (7)
- 12. Chem.symb. Radium
- 13. Brass is an -- (5)
- 16. WON HER (an.6)
- 17. Setting sights on ((6)
- 19. Fish (3)

23. CAGE RIM (an.7)

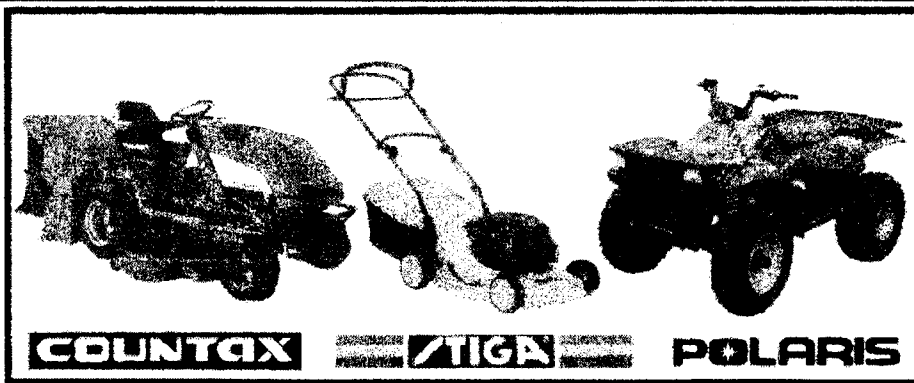
- 24. Uninformed (8)
- 25. Reflecting (6)
- 27. Edible root (4)
- 31. Landed owner (5)
- 33. Banal (5)
- 35. Perspire (5)
- 37. Not out (2)
- 38. Resort with curative spring (3)
- 39. Beverage (3)
- 42. Decoration (3)
- 43. French No. (3)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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Terry Bracey Wright & Michael Mitchell

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St James Church

Church Services

3rd Mar	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion (Note Change)
	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbots	Morning Service
10th	08.00 Wingrave	Prayer Book Style Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Family Service (Note Change)
	10.00 Wingrave	People's Praise (in Comm. Centre)
	10.00 Aston Abbots	Parish Communion (Note Change)
17th	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Family Service with Communion
	10.00 Aston Abbots	Parish Communion (Note Change)
	15.00 Wingrave	Annual Church Meeting
24th	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbots	Parish Communion
28th	20.00 Wingrave	Maundy Eucharist
29th	12.00 Cublington	Three Parish Good Friday Devotion
	18.00 Wingrave	WCT Service at Methodist Church
31st	08.45 Cublington	Easter Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Easter Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbots	Easter Communion
7th Apr	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Family Service
	11.15 Aston Abbots	Morning Worship

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

3rd Mar	Lent 3	Romans 5.1-11; John 4.5-42
10th	Lent 4	Ephesians 5.8-14; John 9.1-41
17th	Lent 5	Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45
24th	Palm	Philippians 2.5-11; Matthew 21.1-11
31st	Easter	Colossians 3.1-4; John 20.1-18

From The Registers

Baptism

13th Jan Jack & Emma Whitehouse at Wingrave

Funeral

7th Feb William Parker at Weedon & Aston Abbots

14th Feb Samuel Higgs at Cublington

Church Sidesmen

3rd March	Mr A Ford
10th March	Mr J Hartnett
17th March	Mr C Higgs
24th March	Mr G Kemp
31st March (Easter)	Churchwarden
7th April	Mr A Ford

Church Flowers

NO FLOWERS IN LENT

30/31st Mar (Easter) Wedding

6/7th April Wedding

PLEASE NOTE
THAT THE
TIMES OF
SOME SERVICES
HAVE
CHANGED

The Aston Abbots Telephone List

630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
A418 Committee	Tom Manning	682455	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229
Astonbury	Andi Swain	682651	NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice Line	0845 46 47
AVDC	Switchboard	585858	Old Masters Restaurant	Juan and Bridget Gutierrez	681432
Bingo	Doris Scutchings	681243	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137
Bull and Butcher	Frank & Louise McManus	681520	Parish Council Leader	John Sansome	681010
Busses	Arriva	468730 or 423445	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Chronicle Advertising	Ivan Greenaway	682605	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner	681544	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Rector	Reverend Bob Willmott	681623
Church Room Redevelopment	Tom Manning	682455	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Church Room Hire	Doris Scutchings	681243	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	681262
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	585858	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Shop (Osborn's)	Bernard Osborn	681233
County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Wingrave School	Office	681346
Fete Coordinator	Barbara Bellingham	681689	Wingrave Stores	Andy & Helen Hall	681696
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Whist Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000			
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681685			
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343			

Please let us know of any errors or omissions

Andy and Helen Welcome You to

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DRY CLEANING AGENT • CASH MACHINE**



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Sunday 6am - 1pm

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Monday - Friday 9am - 5.30pm
Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

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MAGAZINES ORDERED AND SAVED

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FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES • FRESH BREAD & MILK DAILY

CASH MACHINE IN THE STORE • FRESH BREAD COOKED ON THE PREMISES

What's On In March

- Tuesday 5th** Aylesbury Vale Transport meeting—bus/train queries to Colin
- Thursday 7th** Whist Drive. Church room. 7.30 pm
- Sunday 10th** Mothering Sunday. St James Church. 10 am. Bring mum to Church and she will receive a posy
- Tuesday 12th** Mobile Library. The Green and Wingrave Road
- Thursday 14th** Bingo. Church room. 7.30 pm
- Saturday 16th** Wingrave School Association Quiz. See the advert on page zz.
- Thursday 21st** Whist Drive. Church room. 7.30 pm
- Friday 22nd** Cheese and Wine / Quiz evening. Church Room 7.30. Tickets £3 from Shirley or Colin (681343)
- Sunday 24th** Village footpath walk. Meet at The Green. 2 pm
- Tuesday 26th** Mobile Library. The Green and Wingrave Road
- Friday 29th** Good Friday—Hot X buns!
- Saturday 30th** British summertime—clock go on (forward) one hour
- Sunday 31st** Easter Day. Parish communion at St James—11.15 am
also ~ Rambling club members meet at Brill. 2.30 pm
- Mon 1st April** Easter Monday bank holiday
- Friday 5th April** Refuse collection day—not Thursday this week

BOOK THESE DATES

- Saturday 16th March.** Wingrave School Association Quiz. See the advert on page 13.
- Friday 22nd March.** Cheese and Wine Quiz Evening. Church Room. 7.30 pm
- Wednesday 24th April.** The Annual Parish Meeting will be at 8 pm in the Church Room. This a public meeting.
- Sunday 16th June.** Open Gardens Day
- Saturday 13th July.** Astonbury!! Ticket details will be printed in The Chronicle as soon as they are known.
- Saturday 20th July.** Aston Abbots Fete.

NOTICES

Several people have not been keeping to the footpaths. Now lambing season is upon us, please keep to the footpaths. If you are not sure of the route then why not come on the next village footpath walk on March 24th.

“A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman’s birthday but never remembers her age.” ~ *Robert Frost*



MOBILE LIBRARY - 2002

ASTON ABBOTTS THE GREEN 10.25-10.55
ASTON ABBOTTS WINGRAVE ROAD 11.00-11.15

Dates for 2002 :

Jan 15, 29, Feb 12, 26, Mar 12, 26, Apr 9, 23,
 May 7, 21, Jun 18, Jul 2, 16, 30, Aug 13, 27,
 Sep 10, 24, Oct 8, 22, Nov 5, 19, Dec 3, 17

For further information or enquiries, please contact:

Buckingham Library
 Verney Close
 Buckingham
 Bucks MK18 1JP
 Telephone: 01280 813229
 Fax.: 01280 823597
www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries/lima_lib_mobiles.stm

Classified

IRONING—Would you like help with your ironing? If so, phone Jackie on 681182.

FOR SALE—'MANTIS' CULTIVATOR in new condition. With set of tiller and set of planter/furrower tines, and accessories supplied on original delivery including comprehensive manual and video. All as brand new. Original price £398 (receipt available). A gift at £100. Apply Jack Turner, 26 The Green, Tel 681557

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle. Up to 50 words—just drop it in or email us and we'll do the rest.

WANTED You can advertise for something you might want as well as selling things. Just drop us a line and leave it up to us. Contact details are on page 2.

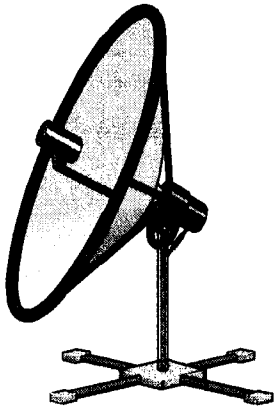
ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

~ PROGRAMME FOR 2002 ~

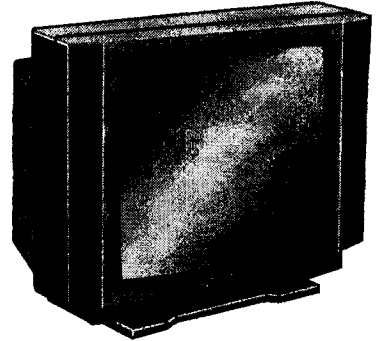
- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 7 th | Spring Lunch |
| March 21 st | Mrs Barbara Taylor "Nepal, A grandmother goes to Mount Everest" |
| April 4 th | Social Afternoon |
| April 18 th | A visit from Miss Whipps |
| May 2 nd | Mr Barry Oxley, RSPB "Red Kites" |
| May 16 th | Etherly Gutteridge "Portraiture" |
| May 30 th | Mr Peter Vernon "Australia, Ayres Rock" |
| June 13 th | Club Outing |
| June 27 th | Garden Party |

CAR BODY REPAIRS FLACKWELL ~~ELECTRONICS~~

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

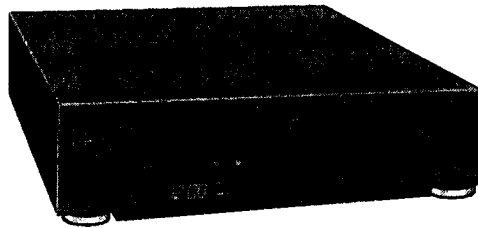


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REPAIRED
THE SAME
DAY**



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FEE WITHIN
ASTON
ABBOTTS**

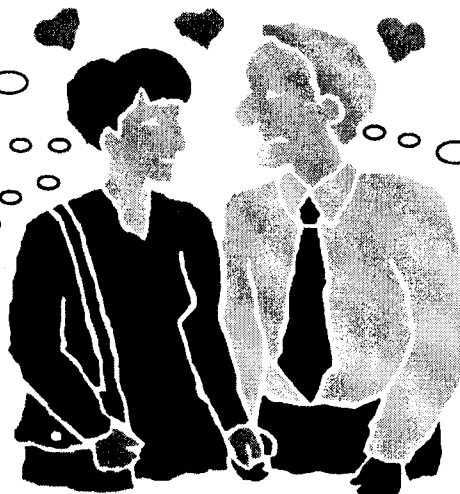
**PHONE DAVE LEWIS
ON 01296 682126**

Feb 14th 2002: Mystery lovers seen holding hands in the road near the Old Masters

I wonder
if I can manage
desert?

I wonder
if he still loves
me?

I wonder
what he's thinking
right now?



I wonder
if I can get finished
here before the
pubs close?