

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 214 ~ July/Aug 2002



Young Astonian Louis de Silva playing drums with the Great Horwood Silver Band on The Green during the Perfect Village Sunday - June 23rd 2002

Editorial

Astonbury 2002

Rhearsals and preparations are well under way for Astonbury 2002. This year the music will include a local band, a string quartet, both new and familiar solo performers and, of course, Astonbury and cabaret regulars Gerry and the 'Atricks. Most of the performers live right here in Aston Abbotts.

I can't give too much away, but a new stage is being brought into use for this year's event and I think we can expect something special from the team. There will be a mystery auction (possibly two) and, no doubt, lots of surprises.

So, bring your picnic, something to sit on (a chair or a rug), a bottle or two of plonk—and get ready to *party!*

Astonbury is on Saturday July 13th. Admission is by ticket only—tickets are limited and will not be available on the night—so get in touch with John Whyte straight away to make sure you get your tickets. Full details are on page 19.

Remember all of the money raised from Astonbury goes to help village causes. This is only the third time the event has been staged, but it is already a major fundraiser. This year promises to be the biggest and best yet—so don't miss it!

Fete and Festival 2002

Astonians have always been very generous when donating items for the fete and this year the collection will take place on the evenings of Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th July.

We will be most grateful for any donations. We need bric-a-brac, tinned goods, bottles for the Tombola, books, gift items, small items for the Children's lucky dip, and so on.

You can find full details of the fete and the fete collection on page 15.

The raffle is this year being organised by Jo Perkins—well done Jo—so please give her your support and try to sell some tickets to friends and family as this is the largest single fundraiser at the fete.

There will be a floral display in St James church during the fete. Then again on Sunday there will be a floral display, a crafts display and the church tower will be open (plus teas in the Church Room, of course).

On the Sunday morning (the 21st), Sally Turnham is throwing open the doors of the Primitive Methodist chapel to serve breakfast to Aston Abbotts. What an excellent idea! Details are on page 7.

....and don't forget to come to the fete on Saturday July 20th!!!!

With that The Chronicle takes its summer break. We'll be back in September. Enjoy this issue and enjoy your summer!

Phil

THE CHRONICLE

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~o~

A note to all would be advertisers -

More than 201 households receive The Chronicle 11 times a year and with rates from just £10 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines)...

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~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 30th August 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.

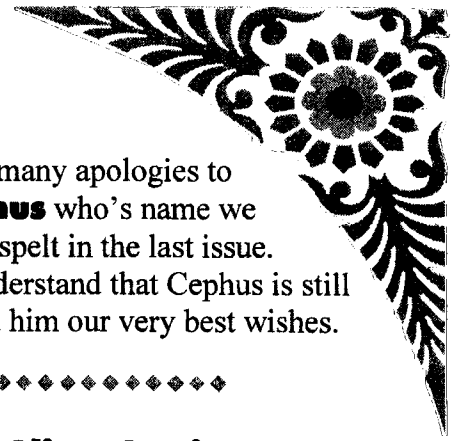
Printed at Waddesdon School and distributed free of charge to all Households in Aston Abbotts, our local Doctor's Surgeries and to Wing Police House.

In This Issue

In your July/August double-issue Chronicle ~

- Mega-Pool
 - A Perfect Sunday
 - Open Gardens
 - Jubilee Picnic
 - Parish Council Minutes
 - What's On for July and August
 - Astonbury and Fete Details
- and much, much more.....

The Peoples Page



Happy Birthday

George Fox	2nd July
Donna Wiggett	2nd
Margaret Kent	6th
Nigel Palmer	6th
Vic Scott	13th
Gordon Smith	15th
Andrew Plested	19 th
Ellie Williams	19th
James Hartnett	21st
Anne Brancker	24th
Daniel Smith	24th
Christy Oldfield	24th
Deirdre Whyte	27th
Lawrence Hinds	29th
Nora Hartnett	30th
Julia King	31st July
Paul Fletcher	4th August
Liz Barlow	4 th
Ivor Belgrove	7th.
Doris Turner	10th
Christine Fox	10th
Mark Hewitt	11th
Jackie Coates	12 th
Dorothy Hinds	14th
Louise McManus	17th
Zoe Williams	19th
Andrew Parker	21st
Zoe Oldfield	24th
Andrew Peacock	24th
Jenny Howell	27th
Dean Wiggett	29 th
Poonam Gupta	29th

W400DS!!

Very many apologies to **Cephus** who's name we incorrectly spelt in the last issue. However, we understand that Cephus is still unwell and we send him our very best wishes.



Our Best Wishes to **Alison Lewis** who has just retired from the National Health Service. We hope you enjoy your "retirement" Alison.



Thanks! The village Christian Aid collection, organised by **Anita Parker, Vika Drysdale** and **Janet Biddle** raised £137. Very many thanks to all who contributed.



We hear that **The Lewis Family** have two new arrivals—one with four great big wheels and one with four tiny little furry paws. One of these was a sentimental gesture from a man anxiously trying to keep his little girl happy. The other was a kitten for Kirsty.



We were very sorry to hear that **Sam King** badly cut his eye on barbed wire and needed several stitches.

Barbed wire is by its very nature extremely vicious, which is why it does such a good job preventing animals straying and is used extensively by the military. If it has been in use for any length of time it is full of very nasty diseases.

Sam's accident is perhaps a timely warning to all of us (youngsters and adults) to treat it with the very greatest respect

We are sorry to hear that **Fred Cross** has passed away after a long illness. Fred lived in Aston Abbots for many years and he will be missed. We send our condolences to his family.

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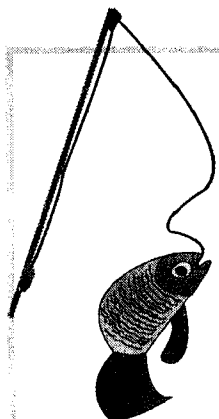
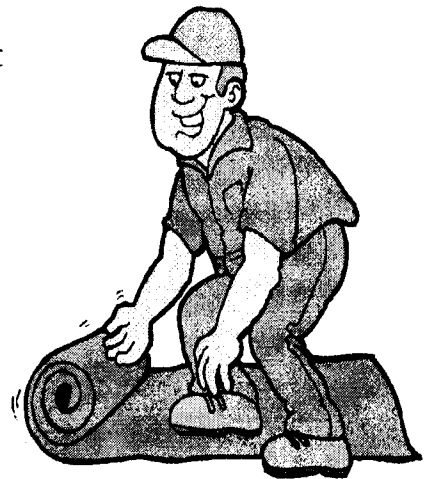
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In The Village

Megga Pong!

Wed. 15th May; and lots of rather smelly water was discovered pouring out of sewerage manholes in the road outside 'The Oak'; a pretty good indication that the village drainage system was again in some distress. Sure enough, it wasn't too long before AVDC had sent several tankers to pump out the drains. Pumping continued for several days before the men with clipboards (a sure sign that things are pretty serious) decided there was a blockage somewhere under between the 'Bull' and the Green. Temporary relief by pumping sewerage to drains around the Green was attempted but rather sabotaged by 'youngsters' deciding it was a good idea to puncture the pipes, creating lots of 'mini fountains'. Not very clever at all since the resulting mess was a very real health hazard to all of us.

The men with clipboards eventually concluded the problem was in the region of Ross Road. Heavy machinery arrived, traffic lights, diversions and all the paraphernalia associated with this sort of operation appeared. A huge hole was dug to get to the main drainage pipe some twenty feet below the road. Due to the hazard caused by 'running sand' under the village, the sides of the hole were 'shored' with hydraulic supports to prevent collapse. Great care was required by the digger operator; particularly whilst men were in the hole repairing the pipe and just watching for a few minutes made you realise just how skilful the driver was.

Considerable disruption was caused for best part of a week due to the limitations on parking and access; not to mention the continued 'thrum' of pumps running through the night. However, looking on the 'bright side', in addition to getting our drains back in working order the entire episode provided much interest and at times not a little amusement for the 'last of the summer wine' chaps living around the Green!

Apparently, in an attempt to prevent running sand etc. re-entering and blocking the sewer, a 'sheath' has now been placed under the pipe which in turn has been surrounded with large ballast stones. The theory is that accumulated water will now flow down the outside of the pipe rather than entering it. However, I remain to be convinced that this will be the end of 'sewer pipe' problems in Aston Abbotts.

At the time of writing, the only evidence left to bear witness to all this 'drama' is a few square yards of new tarmac and a rather lonely and apparently abandoned portable toilet on the Green. Oh well!! It might come in handy for the fete or come to think of it, should our drains fail again.

Post script!!

Second week in June and they're back, pumping out sewerage blocked by more sand in the pipe. This time, a mini television has been passed through the drain and the resulting video and engineers report passed to 'senior management'. Apparently, it is quite likely a continuous 'liner' will be fitted inside our existing drain in an attempt to achieve a long term solution. We shall see!!



Curry nights

If you enjoy a curry, why not 'pop in' to the 'Bull' on a Thursday evening. Louise's curries range from a quite mild Balti to a very hot Vindaloo. All are served with a salad garnish, Nan bread and pompadoms. You certainly won't leave hungry or having 'broken the bank'. Many thanks to Louise from us regular 'Thursday nighters'.



Footy

Well! It's over now!! A quotation oft cited in connection with football; and never more apt since Brazil put our lads 'back on the plane home' However, what great times were had at both pubs? The buzz of excitement prior to kick-off, the camaraderie of being England supporters (even if only for a short while in the case of 'non footballers' like myself) the huge relief when we were through to the next round. All this with breakfasts being served with early morning matches, Pig roasts etc to sustain supporters after mid-day matches. England (and Ireland) might have been 'knocked out' but I am sure many of us will still enjoy the final at one or other of our two great pubs.



The Bull and Butcher

Over a dozen villagers attended May's meeting of AVDC's planning committee to discuss recommendations to be put forward to the appeal committee. A few people spoke from the floor and John Sansome spoke for the Aston Abbotts Parish Council. I am told that nobody spoke for the developers.

The committee reached the unanimous view that they should recommend refusal and this will now be put forward to the informal appeal, which is to be heard on 30th October in the Claydon Room, Civic Centre, Aylesbury, commencing at 10.00am.

~ Phil Spooner

"Lord, when we are wrong, make us willing to change; and when we are right, make us easy to live with." ~ ... Peter Marshall

A Perfect Sunday (23rd June)

Not only were we lucky being chosen by Aylesbury Vale to be entertained (for free) by the Great Horwood Silver Band, but the weather was just about perfect for sitting on the village green to listen to them. It was perhaps surprising therefore that the audience only just outnumbered the band by about two to one!!

The music they played was just right for a summer's afternoon and included a wide range of 'reflective' pieces interspersed with gentle marches. It was all very relaxing with just enough rhythm to occasionally set the toes tapping without breaking out into a sweat and for the gentleman chipping off the rendering at Home Farm to keep nicely in time with the music.

An interval provided time to 'slip off' to the church room for a cup of tea, a biscuit or two, and a chat with fellow villagers, while the youngsters watched a Punch and Judy show which had been put on especially for them. Judging from their reactions, quite a few of the adults seemed to enjoy it as well.

The band played for a further hour during the second half, and then all too soon it was over.

A lovely relaxing afternoon which was very much appreciated by everyone who was there. Thanks go to Aylesbury Vale for organising this concert as well as Anne Dicken and Clare Shorrock for those Oh so! essential refreshments.



'School Party' at the Oak

Was it a school reunion, a 'thank heavens 'A' levels are over' party, or just an excuse to 'cross dress' in school uniforms and have a thoroughly good time. Whatever, it was, it rathersounds that a good party was held at the Oak' back in May. If you were there, how about jotting down a few lines and share the party with us!!



CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

The Church Room.

Wed 31st July at 11 am

The show is suitable for 3 to 10 year olds

Admission is FREE

Contact Jackie on 681182 for details



Shaken Not Stung

A man who was trying to shake a wasp out of his trousers was hit in the chest by shovel-wielding friend who thought that he had put his pick axe through a live cable and was being electrocuted.

Dan Griffiths, 27, of Leeds, suffered a dislocated shoulder but was not stung.

~ The Times, 27/6/02

Brooklyn Is Champion



Aston Abbots resident Brooklyn (pictured above with owners Ivan Greenaway and Liz Barlow), a white Huacaya Alpaca of Peruvian extraction has recently attained notoriety by becoming Champion Junior Male at this years British Alpaca Society (BAS) show.

Brooklyn, born last year on the day of the Brookie Barby, entered this years BAS show along with three of his play mates. One of those play mates Bethany, won second place in the Junior Female Black and Brown class.

When asked to comment Brooklyn said "It was a tough competition, prior to becoming champion I had to win the biggest class there. Fortunately, Percy and Sheila were at the ringside to provide support. I am pleased with the result and looking forward to becoming a stud just like my dad."

~ Ivan Greenaway

Plants For The Fete

When you are out and about in your garden please remember the plant stall at the fete. Don't throw away those surplus seedlings - pot them up and name them. Find a plant in the border has sown itself all over the place—pot them up and name them. Herbaceous plant spread too far — chop bits off, pot them up and name them. Trailing shrub rooted itself— chop bits off, pot them up and name them. All contributions will be very gratefully received by Clare Shorrock at Oak Farm House the week before the fete or on the Green on the morning of the fete.

Letter To The Editor

Please could you put a small message in The Chronicle to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and wishes they sent to me while I was in hospital. They helped me get better a lot quicker so I could get back home.

Thank you

Lyn Clark

...Even More Tails From Portugal

Greetings to all our four footed friends and not forgetting the other sort!! Apologies for not writing sooner, the humanoids had a senior moment and could not remember the deadline for the Chronicle, poor souls, we think the sun is addling the brain.

I have been a little under the weather as I tore a muscle in my hind leg and what with my arthritis, it is still somewhat sore. I have seen my friend the vet and have had a number of injections, I just don't like putting my leg down on the floor to walk so I do look a little strange toddling around on three legs. Anyway I manage and Jacko looks after me.

My mum says another reason why she enjoys Portugal so much is the fact that when she goes to fill up with fuel at the petrol station, there is always a man there to do the job and that applies to all petrol stations in Portugal. She says she really is spoilt.

It is also Fiesta time around the villages, excuses for drinking more wine, dancing and eating. They also let off fire crackers (they cannot use ordinary fireworks because of the danger of forest fires). The humans really enjoy the occasion.

The tiger in the garden (e.g. Veggie the moggy) is not winning so many battles now, he tends to come home a bit the worse for wear. We do not have as much aggro with him as we used to.

The kennel is now really coming together, there are roof tiles and the wall and floor tiles have been chosen also the bathroom fittings etc.. The front wall is being constructed and at the present time, the builder is deciding the best place for the entrance into the driveway, so at the moment there are three driveways. No doubt a decision will be made this week.

We hope the Jubilee celebrations went off successfully in the village, (again the humans watched the London celebrations on TV it certainly looked impressive), the concerts too. We trust the weather keeps fine for the open gardens and of course it will not be too long before Astonbury and the Village Fete. We hope everyone enjoys the various festivities. Will put paws to paper again soon.

~ Nelson and Jacko

(not forgetting felicitations from the other lot as well)

PS Elaine, (surrogate mum), who is a crossword addict, really enjoys the Chronicle crossword and says a great big thank you to Don Bellingham, please keep them coming.

Dog Mess

Some people are still allowing their dogs to foul the footpaths and verges. Remember you can be fined for this offence. You may be being watched so beware—please clean it up.

Breakfast at the Chapel

~ One Day Only ~

Sunday 21st July 2002

After a hectic day at the Aston Abbots fete, treat yourself to a cooked breakfast at the Chapel.

All profits to the village fund

The Primitive Methodist Chapel (now a private home) throws open its doors to the village from 9 am to 12 noon. Please feel free to turn up on the day, but booking is advised. Call Sally on 682716

Example menu -

Fat Boy English Breakfast £4

Full English Breakfast £3

Beans/Eggs on Toast £2

All served with tea or coffee.

(Any contributions of locally produced eggs/sausages/bacon gratefully received.)

Schools Promotions Update

Once again I would like to thank all those villagers who helped Wingrave School by collecting tokens and vouchers for the various schemes. Here's how we did:

Walkers: 4,500 tokens collected—an order for 26 books was placed.

Nestle: 270 tokens collected—£27 received and put towards a tape recorder for each classroom. Tokens for next year's scheme have already started to appear on some cereal boxes, so please remember to start saving.

Sainsburys: 192 points earned this year—900 points (including those previously banked) spent on a sea 'n' land set and a stethoscope for the first school.

Tesco: 19,019 vouchers collected—12,290 spent on two items of Maths software, leaving 7,495 banked (including previously banked vouchers) for use next year when the new IT suite currently being worked on is complete.

Bucks Herald: Sponsored by Wingrave Stores, £100 of WH Smith vouchers has been received as a result of collecting the required 500 Bucks Herald tokens. The results of the second computer competition are still awaited.

Leighton Buzzard Observer Target stamps If there are any Leighton Buzzard Observer readers in the village, please could I ask you to donate the weekly Target stamps to the school, either direct or to someone attending the school or to me. Under this scheme the newspaper will reimburse the school for items purchased as long as the appropriate number of stamps are submitted.

~ Sondra Dickason, No 1 Abbey Cottages,
Moat Lane, Tel: 682249

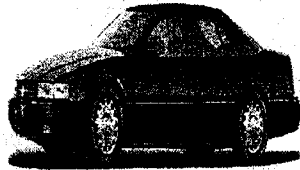
"A behaviorist is someone who pulls habits out of rats."

~ Anonymous

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Open Gardens

It was one of my favourite days in the village events calendar - open gardens day—and another chance to indulge my obsession for all things horticultural. So, with elderly mother in tow, we set off for The Abbey.

The neatly laid out formal gardens were full of herbaceous perennials, a kaleidoscope of colour, the spires of vivid blue delphiniums were particularly eye-catching. The air was heavy with the scent of roses and orange blossom. We made our way through the rest of the gardens, towards the lake where we spent a few tranquil minutes in quiet contemplation. There are many large trees, including the majestic Redwoods, and others we could not name. The old greenhouses, packed with gorgeous blooms are always of great interest and an abundance of fruit and vegetables grow in large neat plots nearby. It was hard to tear ourselves away, but the Vicarage beckoned.

These gardens were a perfect combination of informal and formal. The neatly tended, jam packed borders of shrubs and perennials being closer to the house, whilst the more natural garden, including a wild meadow and avenue of trees leading to a large pond, were away from the house. The Ha Ha added interest and provided a wall to sit on! This beautifully balanced garden was one of my favourites.

They say small is beautiful, this is certainly true of no. 67 The Green, where John and Jean have made their modestly-sized garden appear much larger. The front garden was packed with plants including an impressive Caper Spurge, which was given to Jean as a mole deterrent! (The moles did go but who knows if it was because of the Spurge.) The well designed and beautifully laid out rear garden was filled with a comprehensive selection of shrubs and plants, pots and containers.

On to the Old House. I always enjoy this one, and it did not disappoint. All the beds and borders were well stocked neat and weed free. There is a wonderful old Wisteria and many lovely roses. And 'Oh' for a swing under such a huge Horse Chestnut tree! But we must move on now to no 11 The Green.

As usual we thoroughly enjoyed exploring this treasure trove of a garden. There are plants here too numerous to mention, even if I could pronounce them! Amongst the familiar favourites are many unusual specimens and Vic and Christine will be able to give you each and every one's full botanical name. Their knowledge and sheer enthusiasm knows no bounds. There are many fruit trees and rows of thriving vegetables. The pond area is green and tranquil, planted with ferns, hostas, grasses and iris. Several comfy garden seats are hidden in nooks and crannies, where you can sit and reflect upon this lovely garden.

Next is Oak Farm House. Owned by Clare and Peter, and lovingly tended by Clare. This garden is continually evolving. You may have seen the photographs of the original gardens on your way in. There is a cobbled herb garden and delightful 'cottage garden' area to the front of the house. The rear borders are stuffed with perennials and shrubs. Many types of geraniums, sparges, iris, foxglove, roses, peonys and sedums to name but a few. There are many trees including a Eucalyptus. Another lovely garden, but we must press on.

Number 6 Wingrave Rd—the garden of Richard and Jane Pledsted, though I believe it is Richards 'baby'. He was seen flitting in and out of most of the 'competitors' gardens, his energy and enthusiasm seem boundless! This garden is also evolving. A new pond has appeared with a very nice circular feature patio. It is an interesting and very well tended garden. The deep borders are very well stocked, there is a sunken feature and a large fruit and vegetable plot, skilfully obscured from view. It is apparent that a great deal of hard work has gone into this garden and indeed in to all the gardens we saw.

We returned home tired but happy, with lots of ideas for own garden. Our thanks to all those hard-working dedicated gardeners for sharing their gardens, their enthusiasm and their knowledge with us.

~ Carol Spooner

Many grateful thanks to all the people who opened their gardens and to the people who worked so hard in them.

Special thanks to Richard and Jane, Clare, Christine and Vic, Barbara and David, John and Jean, David von Simpson, Toby and Gabbi

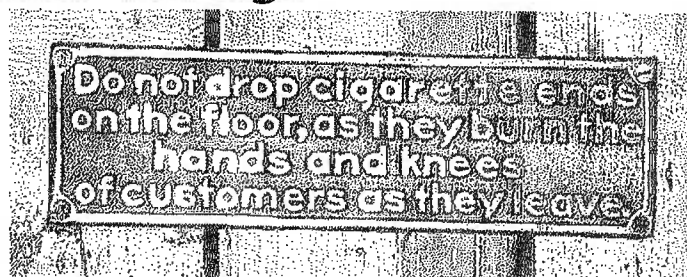
Also to David for printing posters and signs, the tea ladies, and Janet for the plant stall.

As a result of the many visitors the afternoon raised £800 for St James Church and £136 for the Florence Nightingale Hospice. Again many thanks to everyone.

The festival weekend is the next fundraiser and this year we are holding a craft afternoon in the Church on Sunday (and teas), so do come along. Our Harvest festival (date to be announced) this year will take the form of a flower festival and farming in older times – so if you have any old implements and you would be willing to lend them please let me know (phone 681343).



Irish Pub Sign



~ Submitted by Liz Barlow

"Adolescence is a period of rapid changes. Between the ages of 12 and 17, for example, a parent ages as much as 20 years."

~ Anonymous



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Jubilee Picnic



OK! So it wasn't actually raining but equally, it was certainly not the best of weather for a picnic. However, despite the rather 'draughty' conditions, shortly after 2.00, and showing not a little 'Dunkirk spirit', about fifty people eventually 'turned up'. There followed several interesting and often very funny scenes as people struggled against the wind to erect shelters of all shapes and sizes. Soon the 'rec.' resembled a campsite with gazebos, tents, golfing 'brollies' pressed into use; in fact anything capable of providing even the smallest shelter from the wind. Dave Lewis, as resourceful as ever managed to get his hands on a van with sufficient battery power and equipment to run a powerful 'sound system' on which he entertained picnickers and lifted their spirits with 'period' songs and music.

Everyone seemed to have brought along rather exotic picnics (as befitted the occasion) and so top priority was given to getting 'stuck in' to all the excellent food and booze. Ray Wilkinson and 'helpers', mid much good humoured cheating and banter, organised races and seven aside football. Peter Knight had thoughtfully provided lots of straw bales which proved invaluable, being employed as jumps, lane markers or seats to watch the football on. His biggest contribution so far as I was concerned however, was the demonstration he gave to a few of us as to how to balance ten six inch nails on the head of a single nail driven into a block of wood without any of the ten touching the wood or the ground!!!

There would have been more but a good many villagers who would otherwise have come along, decided to take advantage of the four day break to spend a few days away.



Of course the 'boys' had an unfair advantage in the three-legged race as they are used to walking like that on their way home from the Bull. Thanks to Ivan Greenaway for the pictures ~ Ed

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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 22nd May 2002

The meeting was chaired by Cllr John Sansome. Present were Councillors G. Kempster, R. Clarke, T. Manning, M. Kent and Mrs K. Curry (Parish Clerk). Three members of the public attended the meeting.

Election Of Chairman

Cllr Manning proposed Cllr Sansome, who was unanimously voted to remain Chairman for a further year. The declaration paper was signed.

Election Of Vice Chairman

Cllr Manning was elected as Vice Chairman.

Election Of Members To Committees

Police Liaison committee: Tom Manning

Highways and Transport Committees: Richard Clarke and Colin Higgs

Street Lighting Officer: Gwen Kempster

To Approve Minutes Of Meeting Held On Wednesday 10th April

Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Matters Arising From The Minutes Not On The Agenda

Cllr Manning reported that the Litterblitz had to be abandoned because AVDC were unable to supply sufficient equipment.

It was noted that hedges overhanging roads around the village have still not been cut back.

The Wingrave Road footpath will be installed this year.

The Clerk reported that the 'Perfect Village Sunday' is scheduled for 23rd June.

No one has volunteered to be the Council's representative on the Governors of Wingrave School.

Cllr Sansome has had a meeting with John Bercow MP, at which he voiced our concerns about the proposed Weedon Hill MDA.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk informed the Council about a planned meeting with Cublington PC to discuss the proposed new flight paths from Luton Airport.

The new fingerpost on The Green is now fully insured.

County Council, District Council And Police Matters

Nobody from either the County Council or Police attended the meeting.

District Councillor Peter Cooper reported on the following:

- a) The Bull and Butcher. The plans for the pub are due to go before the Planning Committee on 23rd May, and are recommended for refusal. Cllr Cooper is unable to attend the meeting, but has sent a written report supporting the PC's objections and has spoken to Chloe Lambert (Chair of the Committee). He is reasonably confident that it will be refused.
- b) Luton Airport. Cublington would like the villages to make a joint approach to the issue of the proposed new flight paths, and a meeting has been arranged for 27th May. Cllrs Clarke and Kent agreed to attend.

- c) AVDC strike. Apparently 80% of the union membership voted to strike (over pay). This may result in a reduction in services.

Comments From The Floor

There is no Electoral Roll in the Church

Road verges around the village need cutting urgently, for road safety reasons.

Planning

02/01164/APP 55, The Green, Aston Abbotts. Two storey rear and single storey front extension: The Parish Council is concerned that the front part of the proposed extension could seriously detract from the character and appearance of both the Conservation Area and the building itself.

Golden Jubilee Grant

Agreed to apply for a Jubilee Grant to help towards the purchase of six new bellringing ropes for the Bells at St. James, and to donate up to £200 from Parish Council funds to the same project, on the understanding that the Bell Fund will also give £200.

Recreation Ground

Parking on the Rec. Resolved to allow the Recreation Ground to be used for car parking for special events under certain circumstances and with strict conditions. Each application will be considered separately, and in the event of wet weather no parking would be allowed at all.

Dates Of Future Parish Council Meetings

Confirmed that the next meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 26th June at 8pm in the Church Room.

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

They're Phat

They're Back

But what's this...the Phat
Blokes going Indian?

You'll have to visit the Phat
Shack at the fete to find out

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BURGER SHACK
WIGWAM**

Sitting Bull Burgers

Coyote Dogs

Comanche Cheese Burgers

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and the World Famous Brian Burger

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The Aston Abbotts fete 20th July 2002.

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Reference available



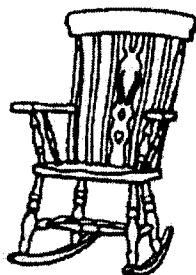
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pony Rides

Aston Abbotts traditional village

FETE 2002

Saturday July 20th at 2pm

Coconut shy

Homemade Cakes

RAFFLE

Silver Band

Candy Floss

Onion Bhajis

Homemade Jams

Gift Stall

Lion Train

Free Parking

Cream Teas

Ball Game

Book Stall

Ice Creams

Kids Lucky Dip

Alpacas

...and lots more...

Lots and Lots of FUN FOR THE KIDS

FETE COLLECTION

Please help! We will be calling to collect donations for the Aston Abbotts Fete on the evenings of **MONDAY 15th and TUESDAY 16th JULY**

Please donate **Books, Bottles** for the Tombola, **Gifts** for Prizes, **Small gifts** for the Kiddies Lucky Dip, **Groceries, Bric-a-Brac.**

Everything that you give helps.

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

Contact Barbara on 681689 to arrange an alternative collection date



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Children generally leave our group to attend Whitchurch Combined School.

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Tracey Creed 01296 714889
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	Inside £ 10
Front page 1/8 th size per month	£ 5
OTHER SIZES	Inside £ 10

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

Aston Abbotts Accounts 1747-1752

Passed to 'a member of the Chronicle's staff' this month by Shirley Ford are the following extracts of early Parish accounts.

Account for 1747—Overseers were Thomas Elliot and Richard Hedges.

The first month paid to Samuel Hobey for meat at Chryshing 9lb pounds £2.5s.

Paid for a Gown and 2 shirts for Mary Simons 13s 4p.

Paid to Sarah Mills for raising child 8 shilling, she was paid 8 shillings a month for the next 2 months. Spent upon Bruckers Account when they made their agreement.

Spent at Quanton after making their agreement with Sarah Mills 2s 6d.

Paid to Deb Myass for washing and looking after Will Arnat 5s. Pd to Sarah Mills for clothing her child 6s.

Paid to Mary Wells for making shirts for Will Arnat 4p.

Spent at a Vestry at Mr Ashbys on Easter Monday. Paid of Will Brooks for the lying in of Mills 15s.

Overseers for 1748—Robert Dell and Robert Wells.

Paid M VS Ashby for doing something for a traveller - 1s.

Paid for a load of bean straw for old Batts.

Spent at several times examining the Beggar Woman.

Paid William Ashby for a traveller that was with child 1s 6d.

Paid Richard Butler for registering the travellers child 1s.

Overseers for the Year 1749—John Green and Robert Badrick.

Mary Wells still being paid to took after Willie Arnott.

New shirts and shoes 8s. Relief money qiven to a Mary Graveflock 1s.

Overseers for 1750—Widow Harris and Richard Keen.

Paid to Thomas Cooper for recruiting county stock my chartis then 2s. Paid to James.

2 days work 1s. Paid to Arnolt 6 days work 2s 6d.

Overseers 1751—James Hedqes and Robert Taylor April 29th

Paid Gadsby. Hobbery money and charqes £4 14s 9d. Paid for a pare of stockings for Arnolt 1s 4d. Oct 13

Paid Mr Daqnal at Sessions 8s 6d. Expenses on myself at ye Sessions and Stewkley 6s. Expenses upon Hilsdon Duery and ye Old Woman 3s.

January. Paid the man for coming from St Albans with a letter 4s 6d.

Overseers 1752—Richard Hedqes and Joseph Mortimor.

May 31st. Paid other Great Bellied Woman that came from Burston 3s.

Paid Sara Kempster Charge for looking after ye woman my whole £2 5s. Pd Marqaret Hilsdon on the Womans Account 7s 6d. Paid Mrs Ashbys for Drink at the Groominq 5s 0d.

Gave the Woman 10s.

Paid to George Aury for Drawing the Woman away.

Reading 'between the lines', these accounts provide a wonderful insight to life in Aston Abbotts around the mid 1700s. It wouldn't take too much imagination to write a book or even a 'soap' around the 'goings - on' of our village ancestors??



Men Are Like....

After the male exuberance of last month's "It's Great To Be A Man" we bring you an alternative viewpoint....

Men are like placemats....they only show up when there's food on the table.

Men are like mascara..... they usually run at the first sign of emotion.

Men are like bike helmets..... handy in an emergency, but otherwise they just look silly.

Men are like government bonds.....they take so long to mature.

Men are like copiers.....you need them for reproduction, but that's about it.

Men are like lava lamps.....fun to look at, but not all that bright.

Men are like bank accounts....without a lot of money, they don't generate much interest.

Men are like high heels..... they're easy to walk on once you get the hang of it.

Men are like curling irons.....they're always hot, and they're always in your hair.

Men are like mini skirts.....if you're not careful, they'll creep up your legs.

Men are like department stores...their clothes always seem to

be half off.

Men are like computers....hard to figure out and never have enough memory.

Men are like cool boxes...load them with beer and you can take them anywhere

Men are like chocolate bars....sweet, smooth, and they usually head right for your hips.

Men are like coffee....the best ones are rich, warm, and can keep you up all night long.

Men are like plungers...they spend most of their lives in a hardware store or the bathroom.

Men are like horoscopes...they always tell you what to do and are usually wrong.

I was unable to print the whole list of comparisons—this is a family magazine after all! ~ Ed

So I was in my car, and I was driving along, and my boss rang up, and he said "You've been promoted." And I swerved. And then he rang up a second time and said "You've been promoted again." And I swerved again. He rang up a third time and said "You're managing director." And I went into a tree. And a policeman came up and said "What happened to you?"

And I said "I careered off the road."

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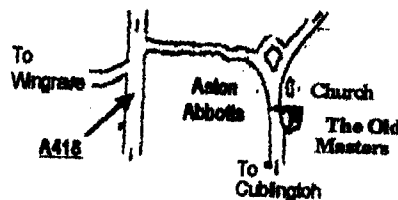
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THE FUN STARTS AT 7.30pm SHARP

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Children under 16 free

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- Showcase for local youngsters
- Lots of old favourites - songs AND performers!
- Sunset Disco

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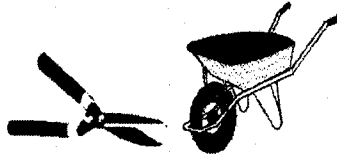
Mystery Auction
We've two pieces of memorabilia from some famous people so have your cheque book ready!

NORDUCK HOUSE IS ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE VILLAGE OFF OF MOAT LANE - FOLLOW THE SIGNS! ENTRY IS BY TICKET ONLY.

HAVE A PICNIC
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Sing along
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*Quiz Night Answers 1. Nether Winchendon 2. Captain Cook
3. An ornamental water spout 4. Chetwode.*

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WINGRAVE COMMUNITY CENTRE

On Saturday 6th July

2PM-4PM

Entry fee: 20p

Increased Costs

It's nice to know that The Chronicle is read outside of Aston Abbots and last month's reference to a 30% increase in costs caught the eye of Jill at Waddesdon School, who does such a wonderful job printing and collating each month's issue.

We did not mean that Jill had put up her costs by that amount. We meant that the increase in the number of pages in each issue of The Chronicle over the past 18 months along with other increases have seen our *total* costs increase by around 30% over that period. Sorry for any confusion. ~ Phil Spooner

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Rectors Report

None of us likes being constantly spied upon. Yet, almost everywhere we go these days there seem to be CCTV cameras. I am not entirely sure, but I have a feeling that some years ago in a Museum, I saw a Victorian Sampler that bore the words: "The one above sees all".

For the young person who embroidered it, those words could have had several meanings. If, as most likely, it was sewn by a child, then the "one above" could have been any grown up, possibly a parent or a teacher. Once the child graduated beyond their influence, then the "one above" became their employer (since many of the children who had embroidered samplers later went into domestic service). Ultimately the "one above" was God himself.

But the message is the same – that you are constantly under supervision! It was designed to ensure that a high standard of behaviour was maintained. And, in age where there is much crime, the CCTV tries to keep an eye on those who might be

tempted to misbehave.

We cannot escape from the scrutiny of our lives. It matters just as much now, as it did in Victorian England, that we should maintain high personal standards, in our private lives as well as in public places. Those personal standards define us. They give us credibility – and they reflect the standards that we expect of others.

During the fifty years of her reign, our Queen has had her life monitored closely - she has had to live under the eye of the camera. There have, no doubt, been times when she might have preferred to have had less public attention. Yet, she has given us an excellent example.

It is, I suspect, her awareness of "the one above" that enables her to live her life in that constant spotlight.

However we interpret those words "the one above sees all", we all need to keep our personal standards high and constantly do our best.

~ Bob Willmott

Quick News

- Two trucks loaded with a thousand copies of Roget's Thesaurus collided as they left a New York publishing house last Thursday. According to the Associated Press witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, taken aback, stupefied, amazed, astounded, and unsettled.
- Thieves today broke into the store rooms at Scotland Yard and replaced all the uniforms with clown outfits. Police are looking... very silly indeed.
- Vandals broke into Milton Keynes police station last night and destroyed the toilet block. Police say they have nothing to go on.
- A lorry load of human hair being taken to a factory to be made into wigs was stolen today. The thieves crashed the lorry. Police are combing the area for clues.
- A ship carrying red paint crashed into a ship carrying blue paint today. The sailors were marooned.
- Two lorry loads of eggs and milk crashed in Croydon yesterday. Police have taken the drivers into custody.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

JOHN SANSOME (Chairman)
Longmoor Farm ~ 681010

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

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

GWEN KEMPSTER
53 The Green ~ 681310

MARGARET KENT
6 The Green ~ 681454

RICHARD CLARKE
Maplewood, The Green ~ 681286

District Councillor
PETER COOPER
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

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

Aylesbury Vale District Council

Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996

NO FOULING



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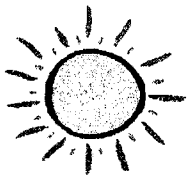
The Methodist Church, Buckingham Street, Aylesbury
on Friday 19th July. 10:00—12:25 and 14:00—15:55

Church Hall, Church of the Holy Spirit, Cambourne
Avenue, Aylesbury on Monday 29th July. 13:30—
15:25 and 16:30—18:45

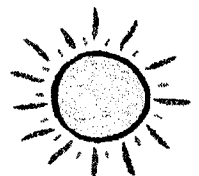
Alfred Rose C Centre, Dunsham Lane, Aylesbury on
Wednesday 7th August. 13:30—15:25 and 16:30—
18:45

Please ensure you are feeling well on the day and have had something to eat and plenty to drink beforehand.

The above times are subject to change. To confirm details or just to find out more information please call 0845 7 711 711, see Ceefax BBC2 page 465 or visit www.blood.co.uk



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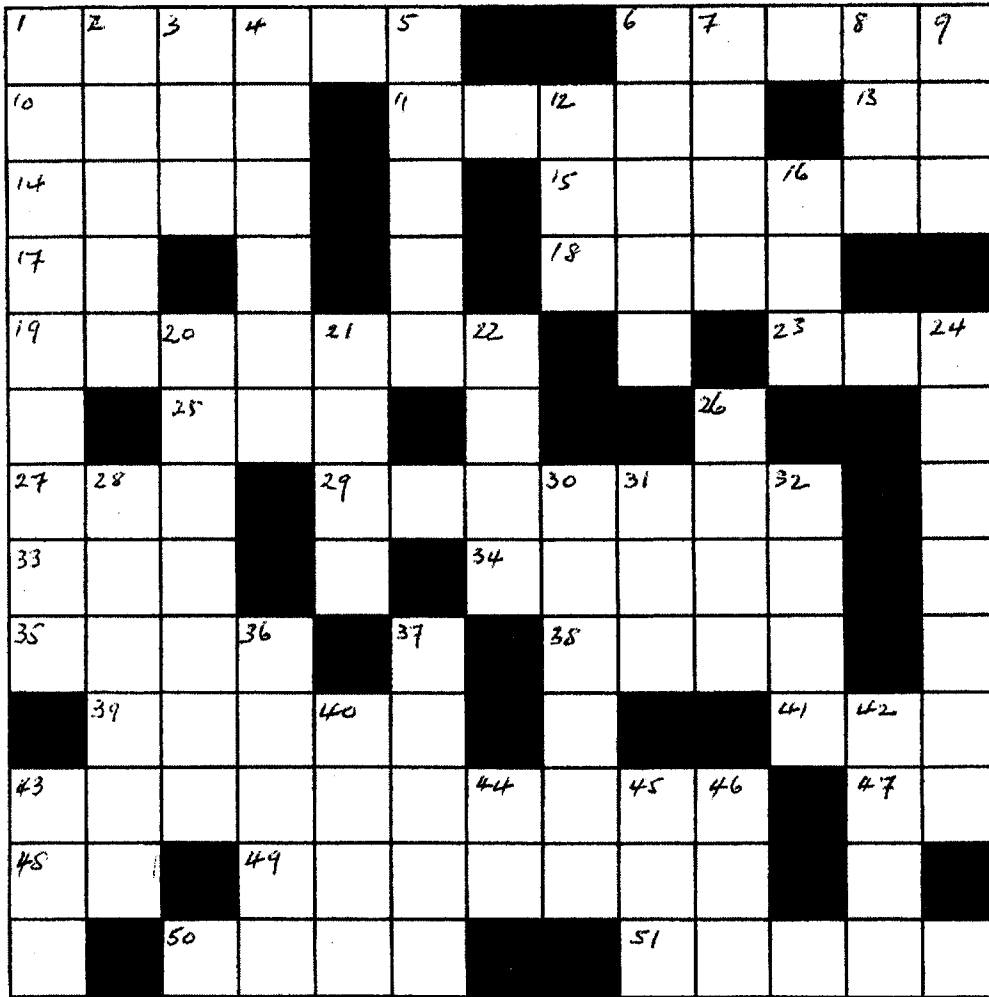
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further details**



The Chronicle Crossword

July 2002



Answers to June: ACROSS
 1 Laugh. 4 At. 6 Is. 8 Untrained. 11 Tomato. 13 Dai. 14 RA. 15 Medicine. 18 Heath & Reach. 20 Tom. 21 Dean. 22 Ea. 23 Onager. 26 To. 28 Ram. 29 Brand. 31 Civics. 33 Easy. 34 Nonet. 35 Ta. 37 Lilo. 39 Use. 40 Hath. 42 Son. 43 Enemy. 45 NE. 46 Buzzard. 47 Gods.

DOWN: 1 Leighton. 2 Ultramarine. 3 Hum. 4 Attend. 5 Trodden. 6 India. 7 Seance. 9 Nama. 10 Diehard. 12 Oat. 16 IRA. 17 Central. 19 Eon. 24 Gave. 25 Emit. 27 Oasis. 29 Be. 30 Nylons. 31 Cos. 32 Stand. 34 Numb. 36 Ate. 38 One. 40 Her. 44 Yo.

ACROSS: 1&6. Nearby village (6&5)

- 10. Cattle (4)
- 11&24 dn. Bucks village
- 13. Motoring Club (2)
- 14. Newts (4)
- 15. Irritates (6)
- 17. Degree (2)
- 18. Iranian currency (4)
- 19. Came out (7)
- 23. Small doctor (3)
- 25. Fish (3)
- 27. Lubricate (3)
- 29. Feral (7)
- 33. Immediately (3).

- 34. Foe (5)
- 35. NOSE (an 4)
- 38. Dainty (4)
- 39. Angry (5)
- 41. Pair of singers (3)
- 43. Famous RAF Squadron (10)
- 47. Senior Service (2)
- 48. Not off (2)
- 49. Scale of temperature (7)
- 50. Garment (4)
- 51. Weariness (5)

DOWN: 1. Sad, Downcast, crestfallen (9).

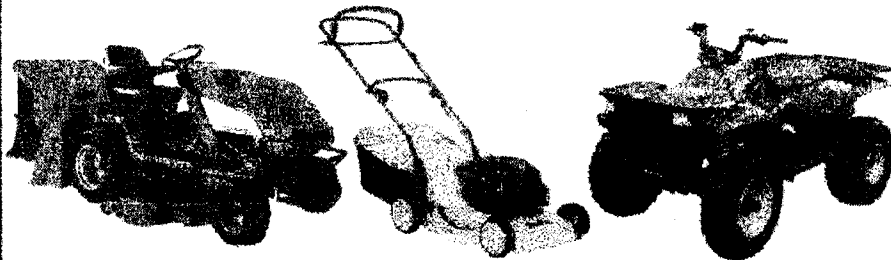
- 2. A charity (5)
- 3. Wager (3)
- 4. Not certain (6)
- 5. Artless (5)
- 6. COINS (an 5)
- 7. Girl's namer (4)
- 8. 24 hours (3)
- 9. Special Air Service
- 12. — & feather (3)
- 16. Ancient (3)
- 20. LOW MERE (an 7)
- 21. Miserable (4)
- 22. Fruit (4)
- 26. Army unit (4)
- 28. Native of Ionia (6)
- 30. Choral composition
- 31. Gull's call (3)
- 32. Changed colour (4)
- 36. Cavalry sword (5)
- 37. Tears (AN 5)
- 40. Short weekday (4)
- 42. Pakistani language (4)
- 43. Animal (3)
- 44. French thou (2)
- 45. Regret (3)
- 46. A Nurse (ab 3)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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St James Church

Church Services

7 th Jul	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion with Baptism
	10.00 Cublington	Family Service
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Morning Service
14 th	08.00 Wingrave	Prayer Book Style Communion
	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	People's Praise
	10.00 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
21 st	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.0 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	18.0 Aston Abbotts	Songs of Praise
28 th	10.00 Wingrave	Three Parish Communion
4 th Aug	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Morning Service
11 th	10.00 Aston Abbotts	Three Parish Communion
18 th	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Morning Service
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
25 th	10.00 Cublington	Three Parish Communion
1 st Sept	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Family Service
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Morning Service

Church Flowers

7th July	Donated
14th July	Mrs S Ford
21st July	Festival
28th July	No service
4th August	Mrs A Dicken
11th August	-
18th August	Mrs Parker
25th August	No service
1st September	Mr I Belgrove

Sunday Readings

7 th July	Trinity 6	Romans 7.15-25 Matthew 11.16-19,25-30
14 th	Trinity 7	Romans 8.1-11; Matthew 13.1-9,18-23
21 st	Trinity 8	Romans 8.12-25; Matthew 13.24-30,36-43
28 th	Trinity 9	Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.31-33,44-52
4 th Aug	Trinity 10	Romans 9.1-5; Matthew 14.13-21
11 th	Trinity 11	Romans 10.5-15; Matthew 14.22-33
18 th	Trinity 12	Romans 11.1-2,21-28; Matthew 15.10-20,21-28
25 th	Trinity 13	Romans 12.1-8; Matthew 16.13-20
1 st Sept	Trinity 14	Romans 12.9-21; Matthew 16.21-28

From The Registers

Funeral 5th June Pam Bateman at Amersham

Church Sidesmen

7th July	Mr A Ford
14th July	Mr J Hartnett
21st July	Mr C Higgs
28th July	No service
4th August	Mr A Ford
11th August	Mr G Kemp
18th August	Mr C Higgs
25th August	Service at Cublington
1st September	Mr A Ford

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



The Aston Abbots Telephone List

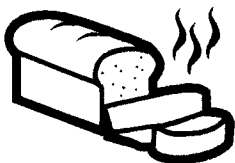
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
A418 Committee	Tom Manning	682455	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229
Astonbury	Andi Swain	682651	NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice Line	0845 46 47
AVDC	Switchboard	585858	Old Masters Restaurant	Juan and Bridget Gutierrez	681432
Bingo	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

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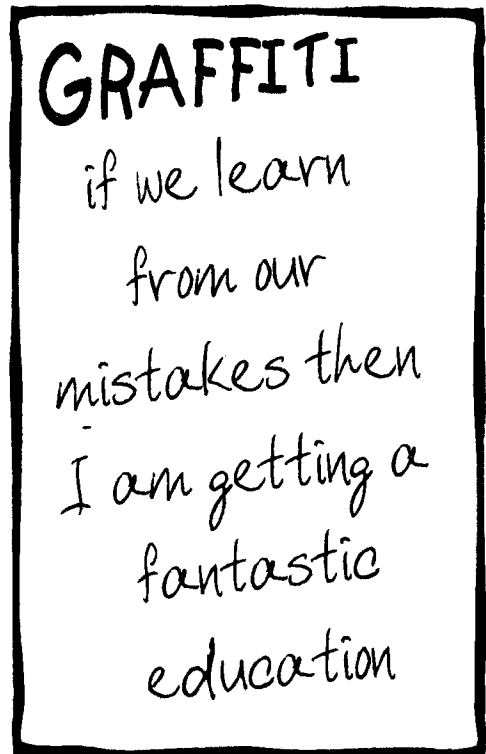
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What's On In July/August


July

- Tues 2nd July** Mobile Library. The Green, Wingrave Road, Oxley Farm
- Sat 6th** Wingrave Fete—see advert in this issue—2 pm.
also Craft Fayre. Wingrave Community Centre. 2-4 pm.
also Live music featuring One Way Out at Wingrave Community Centre. 8 pm till midnight. See advert in this issue.
- Thurs 11th** Road Safety Meeting, Winslow Centre. Highway matters to Richard or Colin please.
- Sat 13th** Rambling Club members meet Marsworth Church 11.30 pm. Lunch afterwards
also Royal British Legion coach outing to Southend. Departs from the Bull and Butcher at 7.30 am.
also Astonbury music festival at Norduck Farm. 7.30 pm. Admission by prepaid ticket only. See details elsewhere in this issue.
- Sun 14th** Coach outing to Folkestone. Departs from the Bull and Butcher at 7.45 am.
- Mon 15th/Tue 16th** Fete Collection. Volunteers will call to collect donations for the fete—bottles, gifts, produce, books etc. Details on page 15.
- Tues 16th** Mobile Library. The Green, Wingrave Road, Oxley Farm
- Sat 20th** Village Festival and Fete around The Green. Opens 2 pm. Stalls, sideshows, competitions, raffle, Teas. Floral displays in St James Church.
- Sunday 21st** Floral displays and crafts in St James Church 2-5 pm. Church Tower open. Teas. Followed by Songs of Praise at 6 pm.
also Breakfast At The Chapel. One day only. In aid of village funds. Please see the advert on page 7.
- Thurs 25th** Whist Drive. Church Room—7.30 pm.
- Tues 30th** Mobile Library. The Green, Wingrave Road, Oxley Farm
also Aylesbury Vale holiday walk. Meet at The Green—1.15 pm. Everyone welcome.
- Wed 31st** Parish Council Meeting. Church Room—8 pm.
also Children's Entertainment in The Church Room, commencing at 11 am. Suitable for 3 to 10 year olds. Admission is FREE. See page 6.
- ## August
- Sat 3rd** Aylesbury Vale holiday walk. Meet at The Green—1.15 pm. Everyone welcome.
- Sun 4th** Rambling Club members meet Lomond Drive Linslade at 2 pm.
- Thurs 8th** Whist Drive. Church Room—7.30 pm.
- Sun 11th** 3 Parishes Communion. St James Church 10 am.
- Tues 13th** Mobile Library. The Green, Wingrave Road, Oxley Farm
- Thurs 22nd** Whist Drive. Church Room—7.30 pm.
- Mon 26th** BANK HOLIDAY
- Tues 27th** Mobile Library. The Green, Wingrave Road, Oxley Farm
- Thurs 29th** Bucks County Show. Weedon Park.
- Fri 30th** Refuse day (not Thursday)
- Tues 3rd Sept** Aylesbury Vale Transport meeting. Civic Centre. 7.30 pm. Bus/train queries to Colin.
- Thurs 5th** Whist Drive. Church Room—7.30 pm.



Classified

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



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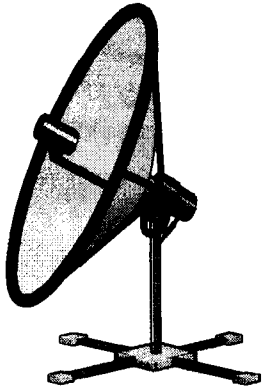
ASTON ABBOTTS	THE GREEN	10.25-10.55
ASTON ABBOTTS	WINGRAVE ROAD	11.00-11.15
ASTON ABBOTTS	OXLEY FARM	12.55-13.10

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

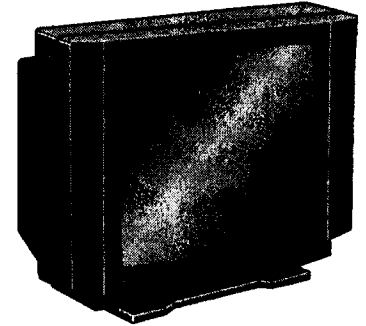
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OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

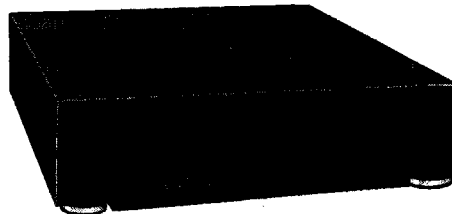


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David! The grass needs cutting!

David! Don't forget to pick Kirsty up!

David! Can you pop into Tesco's

David! Why do people shout " 'Allo to sexy" as I drive past?

David! Don't forget to feed the chickens!

David! Can you fetch my new book!

David! Don't be silly—you haven't got time to go down the pub!

David? David? Where's David?

