

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 216 ~ October 2002



Alf Parker—An Aston Abbots Resident For 90 Years!

Editorial

Housebuilding Confusion

It can't have gone unnoticed that there seem to be some rather confused signals regarding house building in the Vale coming from The Powers That Be.

Why is this of concern to little rural Aston Abbotts? Well, a significant increase in houses north of Aylesbury is sure to put a lot more 'rat-run' traffic through our village.

After announcements about a major housebuilding program around Aylesbury, the government inspector apparently gave the go-ahead for the Weedon Hill development, but rejected the plan for a north-eastern link road linking the A413 and A418. Then we heard that maybe Weedon Hill was not cut and dried - but now we hear that there maybe plans for an even bigger house-building program north of town!

Whether this goes ahead or not (and your guess is as good as mine on this) one thing is almost certain: an upgraded A418 of Leighton Buzzard bypass quality will pass somewhere just south of the village to provide a fast link between Aylesbury and Milton Keynes. If this and Weedon Hill go ahead without the provision of a north eastern relief road then Aylesbury peak hour traffic will become morning misery and afternoon anguish. Inevitably, people will drive through us or Cublington to avoid the ring road. Let's face it - who can blame them? I'd do the same.

Our Parish Council are very aware of the potential problems and have already been in contact with the relevant authorities. But the latest planning study adds an extra dimension to an already serious situation. If there is to be major expansion north of town then there must be better attention paid to the Aylesbury road infrastructure, or there is bound to be trouble at three or four 'danger spots' in this village - and allotment corner is surely destined to become a car graveyard.

However one thing's for sure, nobody seems quite too sure what the government's plans actually are - least of all the government! Let's just hope they are not as confused as we are.

Humble Pie

Time for your editor to eat some humble pie.

In last months article about Astonbury 2002 I somehow omitted to make any mention of the massive contribution Andi Swain made to the event's organisation. Not only did I miss him out of the article, but I also omitted him from the list of Eventsstuff people who helped on the day! This was all rather unfortunate as Andi spent a *lot* of time working behind the scenes in the run up to the event—and also on the day—holding regular meetings, and ensuring that everyone knew exactly what to do—and when to do it.

As Neil Chesher put it to me, "Andi was the reason that it all went as well as it did". That is indeed true and I am pleased to correct the omission this month. Sorry for leaving you out Andi!

Phil

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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)...

...Can you afford not to be in?

~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 25th October 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.

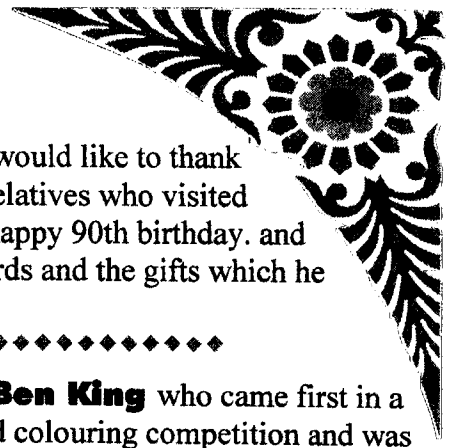
In This Issue

In your October Chronicle ~

- *Flying with Dave Lewis*
- *Alf Parker*
- *Impressions of China*
- *Abseiling Dalmatians*
- *Flightpath Update*
- *Smart Women*
- *Parish Council Minutes*

and much, much more.....

The Peoples Page



Happy Birthday

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

Very many thanks to **Don Bellingham** for his generous contribution to The Chronicle funds.

And also many thanks to **Alf Parker** for his generous contribution. Both donations are very much appreciated and they help ensure free distribution of The Chronicle to all households in the village. Thank you both.

Set Your CLOCKS Back

Don't forget the clocks go back one hour on the weekend of the 26th/27th October

Alfred Parker would like to thank all his friends and relatives who visited him to wish him a happy 90th birthday. and for the 23 lovely cards and the gifts which he received.



Congratulations to **Ben King** who came first in a recent Bucks Herald colouring competition and was pictured in the paper. Well done Ben!



Congratulations to **Liz Barlow** and **Ivan Greenaway** upon their two latest births, who will probably be named **Cloud** and **Cobweb**. We are talking about alpacas by the way, in case anybody who doesn't know Liz and Ivan thinks they maybe inflicting rather hippy-like names upon children.



Well done **Ray Coates**, who phoned from Portugal after he spotted last month's deliberate mistake. To save you all rushing to retrieve last month's Chronicle from the cat litter tray I can tell you that under the Book These Dates item we referred to Saturday the 11th October and Sunday 13th! Ray wants to know what happened to the 12th. I'd just like to know what happens to Saturdays and Sundays.



Sorry to "**Ness**" **Bystra** for omitting to mention her big birthday last month. Yours truly committed a further *faux pas* though. Becoming suitably 'primed' at the 630 club before her party, I then broke the long walk to Longmoor at **Dave and Alison Lewis'** for refreshments and to gather strength. Fortunately as we left there **Bridget Brandon** managed to flag down a passing Indian takeaway delivery driver (in a minibus!) and get us all a lift. By the time we arrived at Adie and Ness' I was in 'party mood' and promptly kissed Ness' sister-in-law **Louise** and wished her a happy birthday! Whoops!!!!!!



Claire Biddle is now available for **Baby Sitting** in Aston Abbots. Claire is on 681102.

We were sorry to hear of the death of **Nora Harnett**. Nora lived in Aston Abbots for many years and used to sing in St James' choir.

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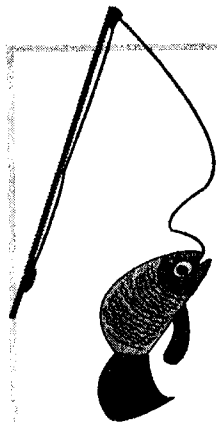
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In The Village

No Way Out

Tom Manning's band No Way Out made a welcome return to the Bull in early September.

The audience gave an enthusiastic reception to their excellent repertoire of rock and roll from the 50s, 60s and 70s and their replacement saxophonist certainly proved he could rock and roll with the best of them.

It was nice to see live music back in The Bull. The event was initiated by Rob the barman as a birthday celebration for himself. Happy birthday Rob!

~ Phil Spooner

Inkjet Cartridge Recycling

I received a note from a villager who is collecting old inkjet cartridges for recycling. Unfortunately I have mislaid the note and so I am unable to print his address. If the person concerned could contact me I will ensure its inclusion in the next issue.

In the meantime, keep hold of your old inkjet cartridges and watch this space. My apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Chilterns Dog Rescue Charity Abseil

Almost £4000 has been raised towards the "Buy a Brick" campaign by a team of 19 staff and volunteers who completed a 150 ft abseil down Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital.

Despite the event taking place on probably the warmest day of the year, dedicated supporters continued with their commitment to sponsors to wear appropriate costumes!

The "Buy a Brick" campaign aims to raise £300,000 which will enable The Chilterns Dog Rescue Society, based in Ashley Green near Chesham, to purchase its own kennels.

Following the success of the abseiling event, other similar activities are now being planned for 2003.

If you have a spirit of adventure and would like to raise funds for the new kennels by taking part in future events, please call the CDRS campaign

Parish Council To Be Abolished?

In a recent LBO item Buckingham MP John Bercow expressed fears that the government may have plans to scrap Parish Councils in favour of regional assemblies.

Although this may come as news to our own PC, it does add to the fears for local representation that have been caused by government proposals to take planning powers away from local people in an effort to streamline the planning processes. Although far from concrete, these proposals do seem to reinforce John Bercow's fears that government plans will "...take power away from local people".

~ Phil Spooner

Mega Takeaway

We hear that many Bucks show-goers headed, as usual, for the Bull after the show. A long day at the show had stoked up serious thirsts and the place was 'heaving'. Thirsts slaked, thoughts turned to more solid nourishment, but with no food on offer at the Bull, what to do? Eventually a luckless volunteer was despatched into town to fetch 44 Indian takeaways. I hope he could curry all those tikka-ways OK!

hotline on 020 8387 0372 or visit www.cdrrs.btinternet.co.uk. CDRS will also be pleased to hear from less daring, but equally caring, dog-lovers who may be able to buy bricks at £10 each or help in any other way.

~ Liz Clarke

Chilterns Dog Rescue are having a race night to raise funds— see page 8 ~ Ed



Liz Clarke of The Acorns going "Over the Edge" whilst dressed as a Dalmatian at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford

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Alf Parker—90 Years in Aston Abbotts

Alf Parker reached the grand old age of 90 on the 9th September. He told The Chronicle, "I woke up at quarter past one this morning, looked at the clock and thought, 'I've made it!'"

Alf has lived in Aston Abbotts for all of his life, scarcely spending a night away from the village. Alf's mother and father, both originally from Cublington, had six children—three boys and three girls. Alf was born in 9 Wingrave Cottages, which is no longer in existence as the group of four cottages have long since been converted into two semi-detached properties.

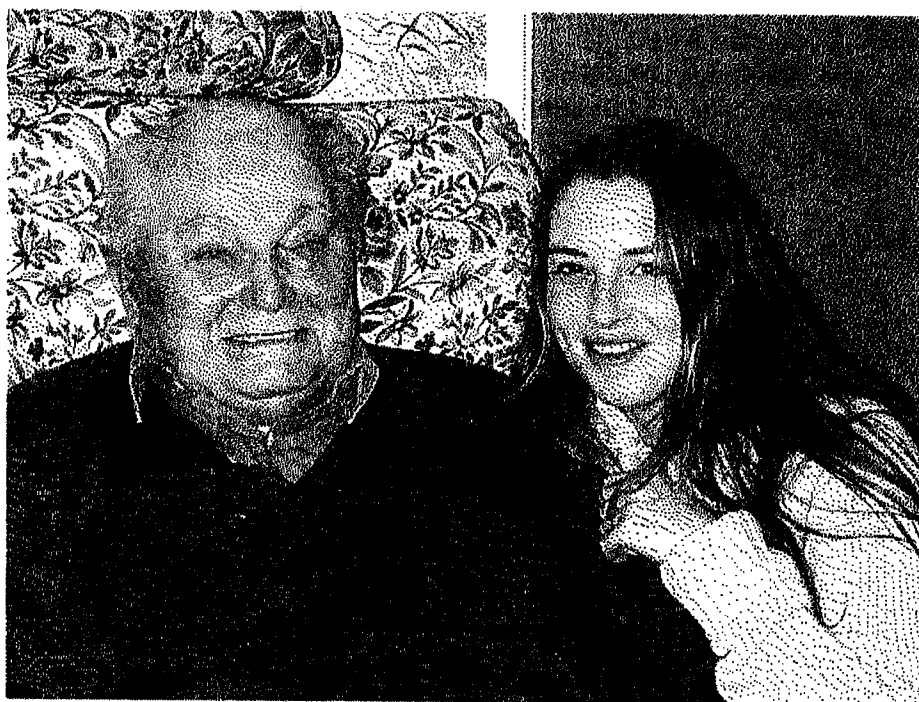
In those days nearly all of the local children attended Aston Abbotts village school and Alf was no exception. He has fond memories of a very different and more genteel time, "When I went to school, all the girls had to curtsy when someone came to call there". He also recalls his teachers, "There was Mr Harrison, Mr Harmond – he was a good cricketer – and Mr Durbin, a little short chappy with a war wound, but he was very good.

"We also went to Harry Brandon's on Friday afternoons and he would give us lessons on engineering. He was a marvellous man, if something needed fixing he could make any part."

Like most children back then he started working at an early age, at one time working for Luke How's father chopping wood. Wages were not so high for a young man in the twenties and he can remember getting just one shilling (5 pence) for a day's work!

Lower incomes and no convenient supermarkets (and no easy way of getting there if there had been any!) meant that allotments were an important asset to the villagers. Each day Alf would walk up to tend the family's plot. One night when walking up there he was accosted by Bernard Osborn's father who told him off, "You keep off my plot and keep on your own". It turned out that all the hard work Alf had been putting in was all wasted, as he had been digging the Osborn's plot by mistake.

Alf's family lived at Wingrave Cottages until he was 19 years old. When the family wanted to move house Alf went with his father to see about renting the Old Cottage opposite the Bull, but was told, "Sorry I have just let Mr Osborn have it". (Now the premises is both a house and Osborn's shop.) However they were offered the farm where Alf was to



Alf celebrates his birthday with younger family member Kelly

live and work for the next 45 years until his eventual retirement.

Having had a lifelong association with farming Alf proudly recollects, "When we were at Red Barn my brother and I had the largest hand-milked herd of cows in Buckinghamshire." Keeping shorthorn cattle, they would have to walk them several miles to the market in Aylesbury when they wanted to sell them.

Farming was not Alf's only job – he also at one time helped out with the bakery at the Bull And Butcher, delivering the bread. His eyes twinkle as he tells how once an uncle came up from London, "He was very keen on driving the horse and cart, but when we got to Wingrave he said "I'm going to drive it through the pond – at that time you could drive in one side and out the other [*a common practice as it made the wooden wheels swell to keep the metal rims in place ~ Ed*] – but the water was deeper than he thought and came into the bottom of the cart. I can't tell you what the baker said when we got back!"

During the second World War Alf continued to work the farm and served in the Home Guard. When Czechoslovakia's President Benes was staying at The Abbey they would have three soldiers on each of the roads in and out of Aston Abbotts and Alf got a bad fright one night when they stopped him, with bayonets fixed, and wouldn't believe that he lived down the road in Red Barn Farm.

Upon reaching retirement age Alf moved from Red Barn Farm - "There was a Field Day when we left and 70 people came" - to the bungalow near Longmoor Barns, where he has lived ever since.

Now as he celebrates his 90th birthday—and 90 years of living in Aston Abbotts— we all wish him Many Happy Returns. Happy Birthday Alf!

~ Phil Spooner

Do you...

...like old cars?

...get 'starry eyed' looking at all those 'Moggy' 1000's in the village?

...like to have a bit of a giggle at Nell's yellow 'tupperware' car?

or

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District Councillor
PETER COOPER
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

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

19th October - 7.30pm

ANNUAL RACE NIGHT

Ashley Green Village Hall, Chesham, Bucks

Our race nights are getting quite a reputation, if you've never been to one, we can assure you that it is worth the ticket price just to experience David Erskine, the 'Mad' projectionist! Place your bets at the Tote and cheer your horse on as you watch the race. Tickets are just £6.00 each which includes a fish & chip supper (vegetarian option available). There will also be a raffle and a licensed bar is available. All the proceeds (including bar profit) go directly to help the dogs. Participants must be over 18.

You can also 'own' a horse for £5 and if he/she comes in first you win a prize (CDRS reserve the right to amend any unacceptable names). Or if you are feeling generous, you could sponsor a race for £100 (and you get two free admission tickets)..

Tickets available from the kennel office,
telephone 01442 876009

Aston Abbotts Parish Council Meeting

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 11th September 2002

Present

Cllrs. J.Sansome (Chairman), T.Manning, R.Clarke, M.Kent, G. Kempster and Mrs K.Curry (Clerk). Four members of the public attended.

Before the meeting commenced a minute's silence was observed in remembrance of those who died in the attack on the towers of the World Trade Centre one year ago today.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed. Matters arising included the news that ten 'litterpickers' have now been purchased. Also, the hedges along Cublington Road have still not been trimmed. The Clerk read out the comments made by the judges in the Best Kept Village competition. These were disappointing, with no positive comments about the village at all. *[The letter is reproduced below ~ Ed]*

County Council, District Council & Police Matters

Nobody was present from any of these organisations

Planning

- 01/01802/APP 3, Church Row, Aston Abbotts, Bucks. Single storey front and rear extensions. Permitted
- 02/02174/ATC 5, The Green, Aston Abbotts, Bucks Fell one holly. The Parish Council wondered whether the problem with the holly tree obstructing the drive could be solved by cutting away part of the root, rather than felling the whole tree. However, it accepted that if this were not possible, the tree would need to be felled.
- 02/02201/APP Norduck Farm, Moat Lane, Aston Abbotts Construction of a menage. The Parish Council had no comment to make on this application.
- 02/00332/APP Replacement mast at Wingrave Crossroads. Permitted.
- 02/02330/APP The Orchard, Moat Lane, Aston Abbotts. Erection of one dwelling. Resolved to comment on the access, which is situated at a point where visibility is substandard.

Highways

John Sansome gave a brief report on the recent meeting at Winslow with Steve Orchard, at which various highways issues and concerns were discussed, including the effect of the proposed MDA at Weedon Hill.

The advertisement boards which have appeared at Wingrave Crossroads were discussed. It was agreed that they are a distraction to drivers at this busy junction, and the Clerk was asked to write to Highways to ask whether they can be removed.

London Luton Airport

The Chairman introduced the subject of the proposed western extension to the Luton Airport controlled airspace by giving a report on the recent meeting at Cublington between the representatives of many of the Parishes affected by Option 3.

The meeting was then opened to the floor, and a lively discussion ensued. The Parish Council was given a mandate to form part of a combined group of parishes to object to the proposal. Mr. Dicken agreed to be the Council's representative at the next joint meeting, and to report back to the Clerk.

Fireworks

Resolved to grant £150 towards the purchase of fireworks this year (provided a volunteer steps forward to organise an event) subject to the following conditions: 1) Suitable insurance cover is taken out 2) The organisers undertake to clear the bonfire site after the event.

Recreation Ground

Safety check – children's play area: nothing to report.

Minor Authority Governor Nomination

A suitable candidate has still not been found.

The next meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 23rd October at 8pm in the Church Room.

Everyone Is Welcome To Come Along

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

Best Kept Village Competition

The letter below was received as a result of our entry into this year's competition.

BALC, County Hall, Walton Street Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 1UA

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2002
– Aston Abbotts / Gurney Cup

Further to the press release which I sent a few weeks ago with the results of this year's Best Kept Village Competition, I am writing to let you know that the judges commented as follows:

- The village Church was locked with no key holder shown.
- Broken window on the bus shelter.
- The village pump appears to be disconnected.
- The red dog bins need cleaning (covered in green growth).
- Unfortunately on an otherwise good recreation area a large

rubbish heap had been left to part overgrow and this spoils the look of the place.

- The direction post at the Rec. gate (Highways) was badly in need of refurbishment.

Thank you for taking part in this year's competition and we hope Aston Abbotts will enter again next year.

Yours sincerely,

Irene Thompson
County Secretary

A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the old west. He slides up to the bar and announces: "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."

Last night I dreamt that I wrote The Hobbit and Lord Of The Rings. I was Tolkien in my sleep!

*The Carpenter's Arms,
Stewkley.*

*"We drank here, socialized here, and
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Flightpath Update

GOOD NEWS! The deadline for public consultation for the proposed Luton flightpath (Option 3) has been extended from September 27th to December 2nd. This means that we have more time to get more people to write more letters to object to the proposals.

A huge thank you to everyone who has written to date! To make best use of this extra time and to make an impact on the powers-that be, everyone must make their feelings known. If we all wrote just one letter, then it would make a difference. So, if you haven't yet written - do it now, before you read the rest of your newsletter. Treat yourself to another cup of tea to make it easier. If you don't know what to write, contact PAVAN (Protect Aylesbury Vale Against Noise) at 01525 240 950, or Rachel@pavan.me.uk, or visit www.pavan.me.uk.

Send your letter to your Parish Council or to Bucks County Councillor Brenda Jennings at 25 The Green, Soulbury, Beds LU7 0DD (bjennings@buckscc.gov.uk). Contact PAVAN as above for more people you can copy your letter to, for even greater impact! What are we objecting to? Luton Airport has applied to the Civil Aviation Authority to open up a new chunk of airspace with a base of 3500 feet (above mean sea level) over Aston Abbots. The new airspace would be used to bring planes from the holding stack northeast of the airport over the Vale and on to the runway, when the wind is easterly - north clockwise round to south (approx.).

Had this flightpath been in use this summer, there would have been about 130 planes over us on some days. Be warned: Luton could expand from 6m to 29m passengers per year - would that mean over 600 flights a day?

Luton currently uses airspace over us at 6,000-11,000 feet (above mean sea level) to bring planes in directly from the west and south. Under the new proposals, ALL planes arriving at Luton could fly over Aston Abbots. Heathrow flies over us no lower than 8,000 feet. Will anyone listen to us? Parish Councillors from many Vale villages (including Aston Abbots) have joined forces to discuss Option 3. Please contact your Councillors to let them know how you feel. Your email / letter will be included in their response to Luton Airport. The Parish Councils have the full support of MP John Bercow, who is writing to Luton Airport to object to Option 3.

PAVAN is working alongside the Parish Councils to publicise the flightpath changes and its impact to individuals. We are finding support from groups such as PAIN (People against Aircraft Intrusive Noise), Friends of Aylesbury Vale, Transport 2000, Aviation Environment Federation, and others.

PAVAN (Protect Aylesbury Vale Against Noise) is an amenity group formed in July 2002 in response to the announcement of Luton's proposals. We are ordinary people from a number of "flightpath villages" who want to protect the tranquillity of the countryside.

PLEASE ACT NOW - later will be too late!

~ Rachel Webb PAVAN - Protect Aylesbury Vale Against Noise - 01525 240950

Last months articles and leader produced a rather apathetic response from Aston Abbots. In Wingrave they are taking this threat more seriously. 35 people attended their Parish Council meeting and now Wingrave With Rowsham Parish Council are arranging a Public Meeting to discuss the issue. This will be at Wingrave Community Centre on Wednesday 9th October at 8 o'clock. ~ Ed

Buy A Brick

- Build A Better Future For Dogs In Need

The Chilterns Dog Rescue Society (CDRS), based at Ashley Green, celebrates its 40th anniversary next year. The Society hopes to mark this occasion and to guarantee continuing security for dogs in need by achieving a long-term ambition of buying its own kennels.

Since The Society was formed in 1963, over 14,000 dogs have been successfully placed in new homes, with in excess of 500 dogs per annum being rescued and rehomed in recent years - at least 6 former CDRS dogs currently reside in Aston Abbots! All this has been achieved from rented premises, but with its own kennels, The Society could do so much more to extend its work, including: -

- Providing purpose built kennels designed specifically with rescue dogs in mind.
- Providing an exercise area for training and behavioural work to aid the transition between kennels and a home.
- Enabling Society staff to provide the 24 hour cover required, giving greater continuity of care and saving us money.
- Allowing us to expand the services that we provide to boost our income further.
- Securing the long-term future of the Society and its commitment to the care of dogs without relying heavily on legacies and bequests, which are unpredictable.

To raise the target of £300,000 CDRS is running a "Buy a Brick" campaign, aiming to sell 30,000 bricks at £10 each. If you are able to help with this project and buy bricks or you would like more details please call the CDRS Campaign Hotline on 020 8387 0372, visit the website at www.cdrrs@btinternet.co.uk. Alternatively, have a chat with Liz from 2 The Acorns on 01296 681064.

Mr S Addam

This letter appeared in the Daily Telegraph 16th September 2002. It was spotted and sent in by Sally Palmer.

A man living a few streets away from me, Mr S Addam, keeps petrol in his shed, possibly to fuel a lawnmower. My neighbours and I have requested that he let us look in his shed, because we're afraid he is going to burn down our houses. Regrettably he won't let us.

We can't trust this man at all. A few years back, we helped Mr Addam beat up another neighbour and poison his dog. That neighbour, Mr I R Toller, deserved everything he got, because he had thrown the previous occupant, Mr Shah, out of his house.

Not long ago, after helping Mr Addam for many years, we caught him sitting in a friend's conservatory. We threw him out, confined him to his house, broke his lawnmower and stopped the milkman making deliveries.

Also, he once poisoned his own dogs - though the local police thought, at the time, that it might have been Mr Toller's work. We live in a complicated village.

I hope you will agree that future village gossip will judge us harshly if we do not hastily pop round and burn down Mr Addam's house

Yours etc...

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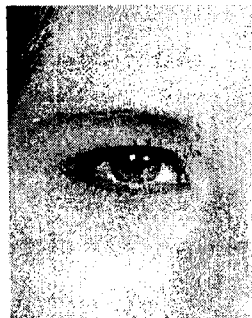
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Reach For The Sky — Flying With Dave Lewis

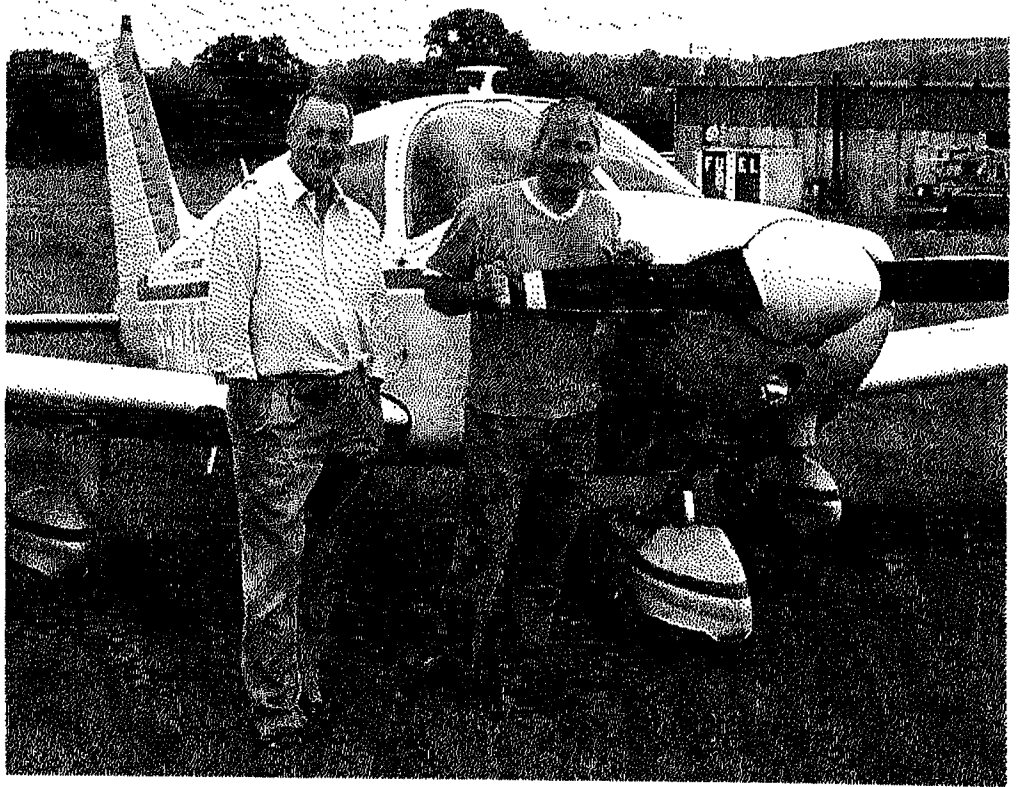
It started on a very up-beat note as Dave Lewis explained to Phil and Carol Spooner and myself just how much safer the diminutive aircraft we were viewing at Wycombe Air Park were than their bigger brothers in which we travel to faraway holiday resorts. After all, the Piper we were about to fly, would at a push, be able to glide safely and serenely to the ground in the event of engine failure.

At this point however, our eager anticipation of a pleasant day's flying down to the Isle of Wight for lunch suffered a setback since he then explained that the helicopter just taking off in front of us was being sent to 'grope around' the grey fluffy stuff above our heads to see if there was any possibility of our being able to find our way about once airborne! Furthermore, it became evident that there would be no in-flight movie or meal; and definitely no toilet!! The additional revelation that neither would parachutes be issued had me

immediately craving the latter although Dave did to some extent put my mind to rest by saying that in the event of a crash, it is only the last three or so inches which hurt. As if to emphasise the safety issues, we had to sign 'blood chits' (indemnity forms) before fetching the aircraft from the hanger where several mechanics had just finished 'tinkering' with it.

Once aboard however, it all seemed quite cosy and the roar of that huge engine restored ones, by then, rather fragile confidence. A moments further concern as the trees at the end of the runway became disconcertingly large; but then effortlessly (or so it seemed) we were above them and up and away. What a wonderful way to travel; a mere thousand feet or so above the country side, our heads seemingly nudging the low cloud. Even on that rather dull morning the country estates, rivers, lakes and villages looked lovely and certainly made me realise just what a green and pleasant land we are so privileged to live in. It felt like just a few minutes but some 35 minutes from takeoff and we were flying down Portsmouth Sound, looking at the battleships and yachts; then wheeling over the Naval dockyards to get a 'better view' of that nautical icon of the defence of England, HMS Victory before setting course for 'the island'.

How Dave manages to spot a grass runway amongst hundreds of green fields is a mystery to me, but he did (I think he works on the principle that if it hasn't got cows in it he can land there). It turned out to be Sandown airfield. A taxi deposited us on the Shanklin 'front' where we headed for The Fisherman's Inn and, since the sun was now shining, fish and chips in the open air. A leg stretch along the beach to Sandown, an educational trip around their new dinosaur museum, tea and buns at the Golf Club and it was time to phone for the taxi to take us back to the flying club.



Andy "Biggles" Bystra and Dave "Ace" Lewis safely on the ground at Sandown

Air traffic control (the man in the shed) had gone home so we were told to be very careful during take-off as a footpath (out of sight from the where we were to start our 'run') crossed the runway. Tension started to build once more reaching a crescendo when it was decided Phil would fly us back to Wycombe. He did extremely well though, earning a resounding round of applause on landing safely and smoothly. It's amazing how loudly you can clap when your palms are sweating!!

By rights we should have put the aeroplane away for the night but Dave thought it a good idea to let Carol 'have a go!!

Wow!!! We have a new Amy Johnson in our midst since with seemingly minimal help from Dave she 'whizzed' us up in the air, aimed us towards Aston Abbots, did a couple of very 'spirited' tight turns over the village and deposited us safely on the tarmac back at Wycombe.

Thanks to Dave Lewis's very generous 'promise' given at the Village Hall promise auction; we all had a fabulous day. It didn't end with the flying however, since with 'other halves' collected (it only took Alison 55 minutes to decide what she was going to wear) we all enjoyed a very pleasant meal at The Oak, regaling anyone who would listen with tales of our 'Biggles' like exploits. Tremendous fun!

Andy is being a little modest in his report, methinks. He neglects to mention his own excellent piloting of the aircraft on the outwards trip! Actually, neither Andy nor I won the flight offered at the Village Hall auction, as we were outbid. However, Dave very generously offered to provide a second flight if Andy and I shared the flight and both paid what we had bid into the Hall fund, thereby more than doubling the amount raised by the prize he put up. Many thanks for that Dave—and many thanks for a wonderful and thrilling day. ~ Ed



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Impressions Of China

Nigel and Sally Palmer have been on a wonderful trip to China. In this first part of a two-part article Nigel shares some of their impressions with us.

Think of China and an image comes to mind of millions of people, bicycles and peasants working the land. This summer Sally and I decided to pay a visit to a land that to westerners, is still something of a mystery although it is becoming a more and more popular destination as the years roll by. We were quite amazed by the genuine interest shown by friends and colleagues which reflects the fact that not many years ago it was a country closed to tourists. This article is written to give you a flavour of modern China.

First stop was Beijing and what struck home immediately was the vibrant nature of the city, the modern offices and hotels alongside traditional housing. Whilst the bicycle is still popular, the roads are now full of cars (typically an out of date Volkswagen saloon, built locally) and lorries. Construction continues 24 hours a day. As we returned by coach from dinner we saw hundreds of workers with hard hats waiting to be collected for the night shift. The 64 kilometers of subway will more than double by the time that the Olympics arrive on 2008. There is an extensive road-building programme with the fifth ring road currently under construction. Earth was being moved about to widen the two lane road outside our hotel. When we returned a week later after travelling around the country, cars were going up and down a new three lane dual carriageway. This was achieved largely through the toil of men rather than machines. No JCB to dig a trench, just a man with a pickaxe or shovel every four feet.

Our visit to Tiananmen Square caused consternation amongst the locals. One member of our 18 strong party was a little girl aged five and they were queuing up to have their photo taken with her. The Chinese flock

to the square every evening to watch the military flag lowering ceremony and fly their kites. During the cultural revolution everyone was equal and wore the same blue Mao suits but no longer. Sure Mao's portrait hangs over the entrance to the Forbidden City and his frozen body is on display to visitors in a grand mausoleum for four hours each day, but there is a sense of freedom now and our Chinese guides were very open about modern life and made jokes about their leaders.

We visited the usual tourist attractions, the Heavenly Temple, the peaceful Summer Palace and braved the hawkers to walk the Great Wall using our newly learnt Mandarin phrases such as "I don't like it" to beat them off. Evening entertainment included a visit to the Beijing Opera and a Tang Dynasty show.

The family is very important to the Chinese. Traditionally they lived in a "hutong", single storey buildings arranged around a central courtyard with a single main entrance. We found ourselves assembled in a female student's bed / sitting room – a bare hanging light bulb and no attempt to decorate with paper, however like many Chinese, the room sported an air conditioner. The courtyard was full of well tended trees and plants. Most Beijing residents now live in high rise flats which from the outside look quite variable in standard. Arranged marriages are now less common and the divorce rate is rising but is still very low compared to the UK.

We went to a nursery that looked after children while their parents worked and watched them sing and dance to recorded music. Then it was our turn to join in.

The little lad who dragged me off to dance insisted that I took his photo. There were three classes and even the 2/3 years olds sat attentively at their tables. We watched the next class tuck into their tea, a dumpling roll filled with date paste and thin rice soup. The standard of play equipment was excellent and the older ones were being taught to recognise and write Chinese characters.

The main reason that we chose this year to travel was to see the spectacular scenery of the Three Gorges on the Yangste river before they were flooded by a new dam next Spring. Imagine 80,000 men working 24 hours a day for 17 years. The lake behind this immense 2.3 kilometre wide dam will be 200 miles long and the water level will rise by up to 100 metres. The 26 power generators will produce enough electricity to power 15% of China and, by the way, they relocated 1.2 million citizens whose homes will be inundated and built new towns for them above the future water level.

Due to recent rains the river was in flood and ships were unable to pass the 300 metre wide diversion channel around the dam construction site. The river took on the appearance of melted chocolate so swimming was out of the question. With around 100 other passengers we joined our ship for the next four nights. Our time on the ship was filled with demonstrations including Chinese foot massage, Tai Chi, painting bottles and even a lesson in how to play Mahjong.

Next month in part two, the passengers mutiny and the Aston Abbotts Cabaret hits the Yangste.

~ Nigel Palmer



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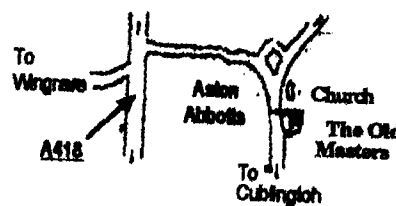
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The Haggis

The wild haggis is a strange and rarely seen animal it's Latin name is Haggae Ochaë and it is a native of some of the most remote and inhospitable areas of Northern Scotland. Feeding mainly on heather shoots it has also been known to eat sheep entrails and at times is a really offal eater.

There are several varieties from the woolly mountain haggis or shaggy haggis, to the lowland porcupine haggis or jaggy haggis. But by far the most common is the hairless Christmas haggis the Yule or Brinner haggis. It is a clockwise haggis which means it always runs around mountains in a right to left direction and is easily recognised by it's left leg which is somewhat longer than it's right.

Recently the most Southerly sighting for 100 years of a haggis was reported in the grounds of Gleneagles Hotel itself, and some haggiologists think that this may be the start of the great haggis migration which occurs every 100 years. When haggis from all over Scotland congregate and hobble towards Alloway in Ayrshire to reap terrible havoc at Rabbie Burns cottage. The symbol of the man who causes great annual carnage to the species.

Today if we are lucky we will try and catch sight of this rarest of rare creatures, as it travels South in The Great Haggis Hunt.

~ submitted by Fred Poulter



Winslow Community Bus



Winslow and District Community Bus

The Winslow Community Bus is available for hire to any non-profit making group in the community. Although the bus is based in Winslow, groups from across Aylesbury Vale can access our service. The bus is run on LPG (liquid petroleum gas) or unleaded petrol, so is environmentally friendly. It can seat 13 passengers, and has the facilities to carry up to four wheelchair users.

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If you would like to have more details on any of the above, please telephone Sue on: 01296 715786.

Smart Women

What they say....

You see a lot of smart guys with dumb women, but you hardly ever see a smart woman with a dumb guy. ~ Erica Jong

I want to have children, but my friends scare me. One of my friends told me she was in labour for 36 hours. I don't even want to do anything that feels *good* for 36 hours. ~ Rita Rudner

My husband and I are either going to buy a dog or have a child. We can't decide whether to ruin our carpet or ruin our lives. ~ Rita Rudner

I've been on so many blind dates, I should get a free dog. ~ Wendy Liebman

I'm not offended by all the dumb blonde jokes because I know I'm not dumb... and I also know that I'm not blonde. ~ Dolly Parton

Never lend your car to anyone to whom you have given birth. ~ Erma Bombeck

If high heels were so wonderful, men would still be wearing 'em. ~ Sue Grafton

I'm not going to vacuum 'til Sears makes one you can ride on. ~ Roseanne Barr

I think, therefore I'm single. ~ Lizz Winstead

When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. ~ Elayne Boosler

Behind every successful man is a surprised woman. ~ Maryon Pearson

I base most of my fashion taste on what doesn't itch. ~ Gilda Radner

In politics, if you want anything said, ask a man; if you want anything done, ask a woman. ~ Margaret Thatcher

I have yet to hear a man ask for advice on how to combine marriage and a career. ~ Gloria Steinem

Some of us are becoming the men we wanted to marry. ~ Glori Steinem

I never married because there was no need. I have three pets at home which answer the same purpose as a husband. I have a dog which growls every morning, a parrot which swears all afternoon and a cat that comes home late at night. ~ Marie Corelli

Nagging is the repetition of unpalatable truths. ~ Baroness Edith Summerskill

If men can run the world, why can't they stop wearing neckties? How intelligent is it to start the day by tying a little noose around your neck? ~ Linda Ellerbee

I am a marvellous housekeeper. Every time I leave a man I keep his house. ~ Zsa Zsa Gabor

The Zen Master is visiting New York City from Tibet. He goes up to a hotdog vendor and says, "Make me one with everything."

The hot dog vendor fixes a hot dog and hands it to the Zen Master, who pays with a \$20 bill.

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The vendor responds, "Change must come from within."

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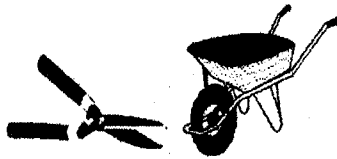
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*Quiz Night Answers 1. Nether Winchendon 2. Captain Cook
3. An ornamental water spout 4. Chetwode.*

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Rectors Report

There is a saying that "What goes round, comes round".

Another period of consultation is taking place between the Methodist Church and the Church of England. Unity is back on the Agenda. Yet, somehow I do not quite have the feeling that I have been here before. About thirty years ago, we went through a similar exercise – but nothing material happened. Or – did it? Perhaps the past thirty years have been like a period of germination. Little appeared to have happened, and yet, beneath the surface, much has changed. Maybe these two branches of the Christian Church are about to come much closer together. We must wait and see.

But locally, more significant things are happening in the Church. As many of you will know, in addition to my existing work, I am now also officially Minister at Wingrave United Reformed Church. This does not mean that I have stopped

being a member of the Church of England – rather it is like having dual-nationality. In theory, both churches should be enriched by the experience. I just hope that I do not get a split personality from trying to worship God through two different styles and traditions!

Thirty years ago the idea to bring together the Church of England and the Methodist Church looked like the amalgamation of two large companies – and trying not to cause too many ripples in the process. It was probably doomed to failure because it was too concerned with the structures, and it didn't recognise that people see God from different perspectives. No matter how hard one tries, it is impossible to build a box into which God will fit.

Here in Wingrave a small, yet significant, step forward has been taken by the sharing of a Minister between two of the three churches. In part it is a

recognition that, despite our different traditions, we worship the same God, through Jesus Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We must look forward to the coming together of the Church of England and Methodist Churches – and for them to come together with the United Reformed Church, the Baptist Church, The Roman Catholic Church,
the.....

~ Bob Willmott

HARVEST SALE

7 pm on Sunday 13th Oct
at The Royal Oak
All proceeds to St James
Great Fun—Do Come And
Support The Church

1st Wingrave Scouts and Cubs

The Cubs started back on 10th of September after having a nice break after all their hard work in July which resulted in them winning the Garden News Shield at the village show for the first time in 8 yrs

During the summer break 11 cubs and 4 leaders went to Phasels Wood Scout Camp at Kings Langley between 16th and 21st August and a great time was had by all. The weather was fantastic with only one day of rain and that had stopped by the end of breakfast.

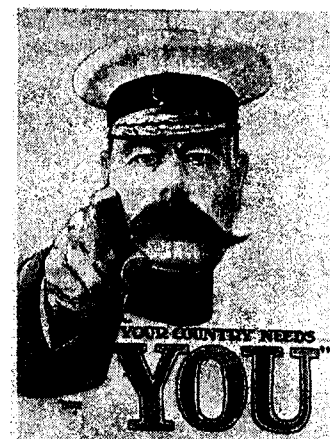
The main theme of the camp was flight, with the cubs all stencilling their own tee-shirts as mementos. A trip to Hendon Aircraft Museum was a great success as was the making and launching of their own rockets.

As well as this the cubs went potholing (I think Akela managed to come out muddier than anyone) used a Cresta run, went orienteering and used an Adventure trail. They went swimming, made a water slide and had water fights, and much, much more.

The camp ended at 4 pm on the Wednesday after enrolling George Chapple and James Alexander into the Scouts.

The new term started with the enrolment of three new Cubs Jack Edwards, Thomas Bandy and John Howe, and a discussion about the new program and badge work that is now in place after a big change in the Scout Movement. Information and Sponsor forms were also handed out for the Group Sponsored walk being held on the 13th October. Please encourage them if you see them as they will be starting at 10.30 from the Scout HQ and using the village walk as their route, where they will be finishing with a BBQ. All funds raised will be used to purchase new camping equipment which is badly needed by the group.

~ Julia Ellis



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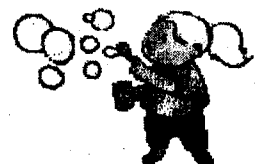


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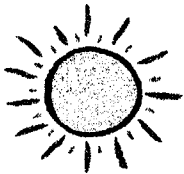
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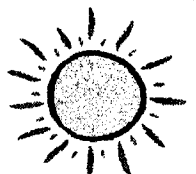
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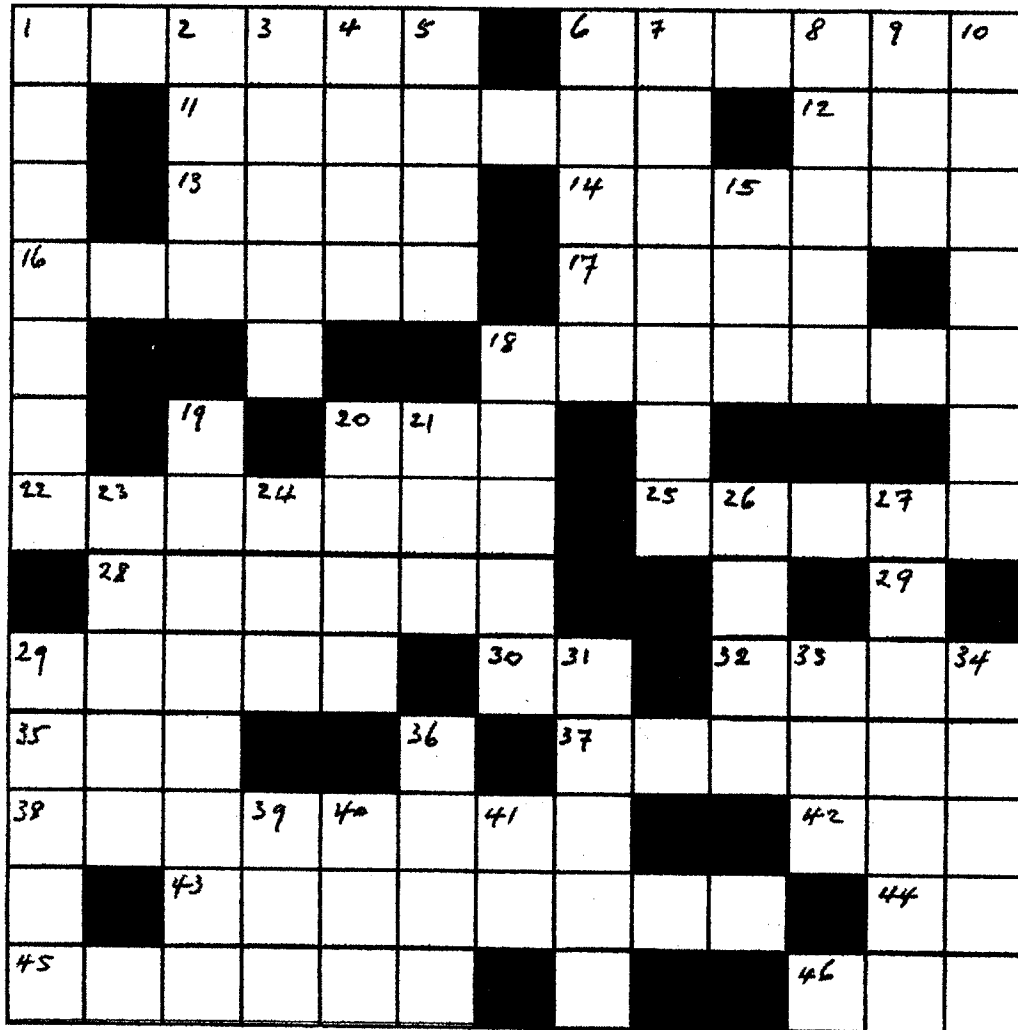
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The Chronicle Crossword

October 2002



- ACROSS:** 1&16. Local town (6&6)
 6. Ceased, lessened (6)
 11. An Inn (F. 7)
 12. Fish eggs (3)
 13. Heavy earth moving tractor (abb. 7)
 14. Performing on stage (6)
 17. Captured (4)
 18. Painting method with emulsion (7)
 20. Her (3)
 22. A picket (7)
 25. Skid, slip (5)
 28. Depends (6)

29. Aquatic birds (5)
 30. Royal letters (2)
 32. Engine part (abb. 4)
 35. English river (3)
 37. Residence of president of France (6)
 38. Wide brimmed hats (8)
 42. lbs per sq. inch (3)
 43. Gambling game (8)
 44. Chem symb: silver
 45. Method
 46. Voting yes

- DOWN:** 1. Primates (7)
 2. Peeress (4)
 3. Revolves (5)
 4. Musical instrument (4)
 5. Meshes (4)
 6. Precious stone (5)
 7. SEE COMB (an. 7)
 8. Child's toy (5)
 9. Age (3)
 10. Debase (an. 7)
 15. Another child's toy (3)
 18. Brief, concise (5)
 19. Destroyers (8)
 20. For snow travel (3)

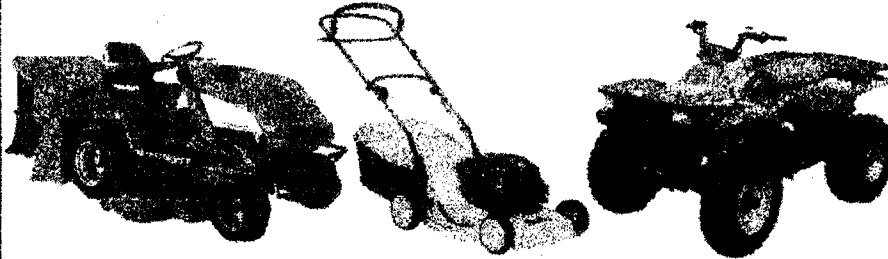
21. --- haw (3)
 23. Rely on (5)
 24. Family; class (3)
 26. Girl's name (4)
 27. SAD YEAR (an. 7)
 29. Office furniture (5)
 32. Snake (3)
 31. Relaxes (5)
 33. Snake (3)
 34. Colour (5)
 36. Evergreen tree (4)
 39. Tiny child (3)
 40. USE (an. 3)
 41. Compass point (2)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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St James Church

Church Services

6 th Oct	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Harvest Family Service
	10.00 Wingrave	Sunday Club
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Morning Service
	18.00 Cublington	Evensong
13 th	08.00 Wingrave	Prayer Book Style Communion
	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	People's Praise
	10.00 Aston Abbotts	Harvest Festival
	10.00 Wingrave	Sunday Club
20 th	10.00 Aston Abbotts	Three Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Sunday Club
27 th	08.45 Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
	10.00 Wingrave	Sunday Club
	10.00 Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
3 rd Nov	10.00 Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00 Cublington	Family Service
	10.00 Wingrave	Sunday Club
	11.15 Aston Abbotts	Morning Service

Sunday Readings

6 th Oct	Trinity 19	Philippians 3.4-14; Matthew 21.33-46
13 th	Trinity 20	Philippians 4.1-9; Matthew 22.1-14
20 th	Trinity 21	1 Thessalonians 1.1-10; Matthew 22.15-22
27 th	Trinity 22	1 Thessalonians 2.1-8; Matthew 22.34-46
3 rd Nov	4 < Advent	1 Thessalonians 2.9-13; Matthew 24.1-14

From The Registers

Baptism

25th Aug Kiam La-Plain at Wingrave

1st Sept William Darby at Wingrave

Funeral

30th Aug Norah Hartnett at Amersham

6th Sept Frederick Newland at Wingrave

17th Sept Frank King at Wingrave URC

Church Flowers

5 th /6 th	Wedding
12 th /13 th	Harvest
19 th /20 th	" "
26 th /27 th	Mr C Higgs

Church Sidesmen

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

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



MOBILE LIBRARY - 2002

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

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

The Aston Abbotts 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 Moul	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	Toddlers Group	Claire Greswell	682949
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
Fete Coordinator	Barbara Bellingham	681689	Wingrave School	Office	681346
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave Stores	Andy & Helen Hall	681696
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Whist Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681685			
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343			

Please let us know of any errors or omissions

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What's On In October

Thurs 3rd	Toddlers Group in the Church Room. 10 am—12.
<i>Also ~</i>	Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30 pm
Sunday 6th	Rambling Club Members meet Woburn town car park 2.00 pm.
Tues. 8th	Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
<i>Also ~</i>	Rambling Club members meet at 13 Morlands, Wing 8.00 pm.
Thurs 10th	Toddlers Group in the Church Room. 10 am—12.
<i>Also ~</i>	Bingo Church room 7.30 pm.
Sat 5th	70s/80s Disco at Wingrave Community Centre—see page 14
Sat. 12th	Harvest Flower Festival. St James Church 2.00 – 5.00 pm.
Sun 13th	Harvest Festival Service – St James Church 10.00 am.
<i>Also ~</i>	Harvest Produce Sale – Royal Oak 7.00 pm. All Welcome.
Thurs 17th	Toddlers Group in the Church Room. 10 am—12.
<i>Also ~</i>	Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
Tues. 22nd	Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm
Thurs 24th	Toddlers Group in the Church Room. 10 am—12.
Sat 26th	WCA Race Night at Wingrave Community Centre
Sat. 26th/27th	British Summer Time ends so remember to put your clocks <u>back</u> 1 hour.
Sunday 27th	Rambling Club Members meet Cublington cross roads 2.00 pm.
Tues 29th	Floral class Church room 7.00 pm. (There must be 10 to keep it going)
Thurs 31st	Toddlers Group in the Church Room. 10 am—12.
<i>Also ~</i>	Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30pm
Fri 1st Nov	Murder Mystery Evening at Wingrave Community Centre
Sat 2nd Nov	School Association Bonfire and Fireworks. The Knolls, Church Street, Wingrave at 18.00.
Tues 5th Nov	Aston Abbots Bonfire and Fireworks—see page 15

BOOK THESE DATES

Sun 13th October. Auction of Harvest produce. 7 pm at The Royal Oak. Please come and support our Church.

Sunday 3rd November. Coach trip for London-Brighton Old Crocks race. Departs Bull and Butcher 8 am. Contact Colin on 681343. See page 7

Tues 5th November. Aston Abbots Bonfire and Fireworks—see page 15

Classified

As seen... and heard at Astonbury

YAMAHA 7000 KEYBOARD (Arranger Workstation)

Complete with Manual, Music Stand, Discs and Gig bag. Excellent condition, Easy to play. Hundreds of voices and styles. Fantastic sounds and rhythms. Cost over £ 2000 : Bargain at £ 520

Give Neil a ring on 681201 and get a demonstration

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

NOTICES

Rubbish!!

Would allotment holders please burn rubbish and refrain from stacking it up.

Doggie Doos!!

Will the person(s) using the church room wheelie bin for disposing their dog waste please stop doing it. There is a dog waste bin on The Green.

Children's Play Area

Would people please ensure that the gate to the children's play area in the Rec is closed when they leave, as this helps to prevent dogs messing where the children play.

Guy Fawkes Bonfire

Please don't put non-combustible materials on the bonfire heap in the recreation ground. Items that don't burn have to be disposed of by someone.

Thank you

Dynamic Enthusiastic **MANAGER WANTED** for the Astonbury Festival. Although it is not yet decided if there will be an Astonbury 2003, Andi has decided to step down from the organising team due to impending family commitments. So if anybody would like to get involved, or even manage the event then why not put your hand up now. If you can help please contact Neil on 681201.

+++ FOR SALE +++

Due to office relocation (it's now a nursery) ~

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BABY SITTER AVAILABLE in Aston Abbots. Contact Claire Biddle on 681102.

"A good rule of thumb is that if you've made it to thirty-five and your job still requires you to wear a name tag, you've probably made a serious vocational error." ~ *Dennis Miller*

"The difference between a job and a career is the difference between forty and sixty hours a week." ~ *Robert Frost*

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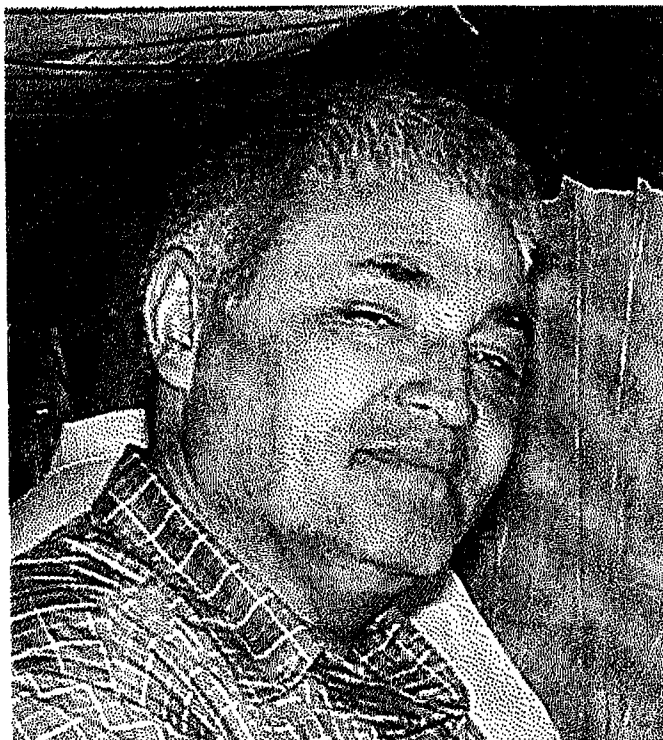
OUTRAGE OVER NEW FLIGHTPATH PROPOSAL

Luton residents reacted angrily this week to news of a proposed new direct descent flightpath in to Aston Abbots. This new flight approach could see David Lewis passing directly over Luton town at low altitude in a desperate attempt to locate Church Farm.

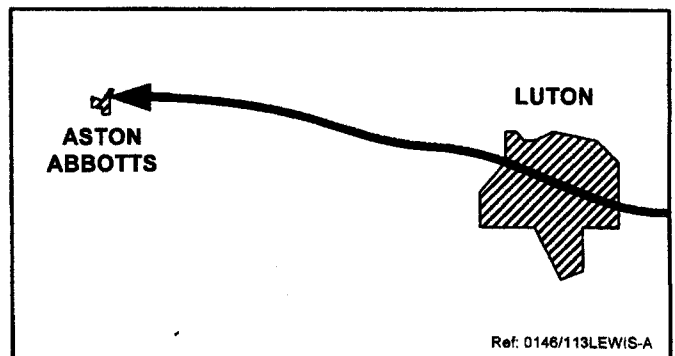
Protestors were quick to point out that the new flightpath might see landings at Church Farm increase from the current 0.000002 mppa (million passengers per annum). They are also upset that nighttime flights home may disturb their sleep. "He can be very late coming home on a Friday night," one protestor told us, "and he *sings!*"

A spokesman for Luton backed the protests, saying, "This town is just so peaceful at night - all you can hear are the town sounds of glass breaking and car alarms going off", and added, "We don't want that pest over us!"

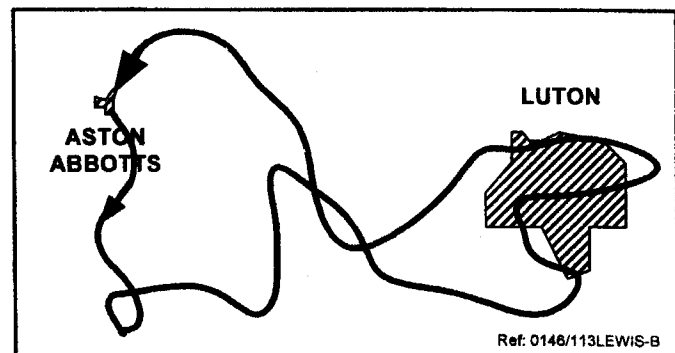
Luton residents have vowed to fight the application. A protest group - the Bedfordshire Against Lewis' Landings Society - has been formed. Members deny they are being nimbys, telling us, "Just keep that pest away from us!"



Lewis "...pest..."



Lewis' proposed new approach flightpath to Aston Abbots



The alternative Lewis approach flightpath to be used on Friday nights after closing time

Meanwhile support for the new flight path has been growing in Aston Abbots. Lewis' friend John Whyte a few days ago launched a support group with great enthusiasm and has, typically, been talking nothing but excitable Bucks Official Lewis' Landings Organisation and Complete Kamikaze Support ever since

Whyte has also been quick to deny that the application does not reveal the true low height nature of the flights. Whilst admitting that the planned height of 250 foot is actually above sea level he was unable to confirm that Aston Abbots' greater height of 450 feet a.s.l. could see the last three miles of the approach being 200 foot below ground, commenting tartly, "Such an approach is quite normal for a Lewis landing".

~ Aviation Correspondent

EYELASH PERMING? - JUST ASK