

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 219 ~ January 2003



Editorial

In January 2002's editorial I wrote, "Aston Abbotts goes into 2002 with a shop, a Church, a restaurant and two pubs. I wonder what will be left as we approach 2003" One year later we know that the fight to save the Bull and Butcher is lost and The Old Masters Restaurant has just closed its doors to regular restaurant trade.

The news about the Bull came early in December, in a letter to villagers who had attended the appeal hearing. The appeal inspector threw out all of the arguments for retaining the Bull as a pub and gave the green light for its redevelopment as four houses and six flats (see page 5). We don't know when the redevelopment will take place, but the news led to a couple of rather emotional "speeches" at the New Years Eve party as some villagers voiced their disappointment and dismay.

To lose two of our village facilities in one year is a bit of a body blow. There have been many parties, events and discos in the rear bar of the Bull. Juan and Brigit have allowed the Old Masters to be used for special events - where else could we have held 2001's Village Auction which raised so much money for the Church Room (Village Hall) restoration project (currently struggling—see page 9)?

The loss of the Bull is a great shame, but we must move on. There is no point in carping over what is now done or trying to prolong the issue, as this will only cause acrimony to no useful effect. Those of you who objected and stood up for what you believe in should be proud of yourselves. For those who believe in Aston Abbotts as a village and as a community there will be other battles to fight - and we should be ready to fight them.

So let's not start 2003 by burying our heads in hands in gloom and despair. There is still much to be happy about and look forward to. We still have a great pub in The Royal Oak, where Teri and Gary serve good beer and great food, always with a warm welcome. Meanwhile, the Bull and Butcher remains open whilst plans are finalised.

Our church, which last year for the first time itself raised the question of its own future, has, due to some considerable generosity and support, managed to pay its Parish Share for the first time in some years (see page 25). This amazing achievement must surely strengthen its position.

Last year's Astonbury was the best ever. December's cabaret was a smash and sold out, even before it was mentioned in these pages. The fete was again a huge success.

Then there are things to look forward to: this year's fete, maybe there will be another Astonbury, the social events and outings, the Ladies Club, The Toddlers Group, the Rambling Club and more.

Over 70 people attended the New Years Eve party (and it was not publicly advertised). As usual there were people who have been born and brought up in this village partying and celebrating along with "newcomers" like myself. It is this inclusiveness and spirit that makes Aston Abbotts special - and it's going to take more than the loss of a pub to destroy that!

Happy 2003 everybody! Let's have a great year!



THE CHRONICLE Issue 219 January 2003

Contacts

Editorial / General

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

Distribution

Andy Bystra
31 The Green
01296 681690

Advertising

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

~o~

A note to all would be advertisers -

More than 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 24th January 2003

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.

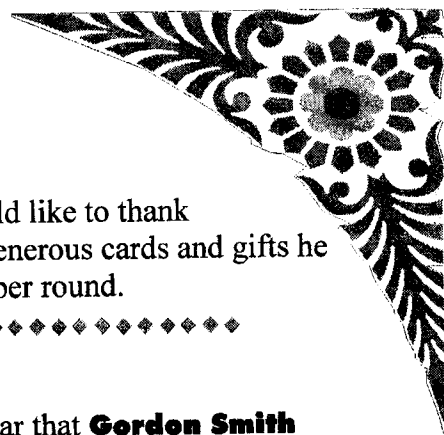
In This Issue

In your New Year Chronicle ~

- The Bull and Butcher Appeal Decision
- The Old Masters Closes
- Let There Be Light
- Church Room Update
- Goodness Gracious Me—Cabaret 2002
- A Place In The Sun

and much, much more.....

The Peoples Page



Happy Birthday

Nicholas Oldfield	2nd
Andi Swain	5th
Jane Plested	7th
Sarah Plested	7th
James Clarke	10th
Tony Hinds	13th
Zoe Hinds	25th
David Lewis	28th
Carol Spooner	28th
Anita Parker	28th
Richard Plested	29th
Chloe Oldfield	30th

Poppy Appeal 2002

The collections in Aston Abbotts amounted to £705.56. The area total was £1910.06.

Many thanks to those who gave and those who collected for this worthy cause.

~ A Rawlins. P.A.O.

Weakest Link

Watch out for **Liz Barlow** from Nash's Farm, who soon should be appearing in an upcoming episode of BBC Television's The Weakest Link.

Happy New Year

Ray and Jackie Coates would like to wish all of their many friends in Aston Abbotts a belated but very Happy New Year. We wish them the very best in their new Portuguese home, into which they have just moved.

Thank You

George Fox would like to thank everyone for the generous cards and gifts he received on his paper round.

Hospital

We are sorry to hear that **Gordon Smith** spent several days in hospital and we're glad to see him up and about again now.

Grateful Thanks

Percy and Sheila Humphreys would like to thank the many people who have sent good wishes during Percy's recent "incapacity" following his knee operation, and especially those who have helped with transport. He's making a good recovery and will soon be seen dashing round the village!

Belated Birthdays

Belated happy birthday wishes for last month to **Kevin and Jane Copping** from Home Farm. Sorry we missed you out!

Good Luck

Our very best wishes to **Juan Gutierrez** of the Old Masters upon his retirement. We wish him and Brigit all the very best for the future.

Strippers

Now just who were those three (male) Astonians who stripped to the waist in a frenzy of beer, *bonhomie* and testosterone at a pre-Christmas drinks party? We understand that photographic evidence does exist. Beefcake they thought! **Cheesecake** we thought!

Health Advice

We're used to being preached to by the medical profession. You know what I mean—*anything* nice is bad for you. Beer? Wrecks your liver. Sunbathing? Shortens your life by ten years. Do you like real butter on your baked potato? Book the crematorium today! So just who was that bastion of the medical profession who pinched all of Sharon's fags throughout the Bull Christmas party, eh? Physician, heal thyself!

Aston Flooring

ARE YOUR FLOOR COVERINGS LOOKING OLD AND TIRED?

Then revitalise your home with a new floor!

All makes of flooring supplied and fitted to the highest of standards

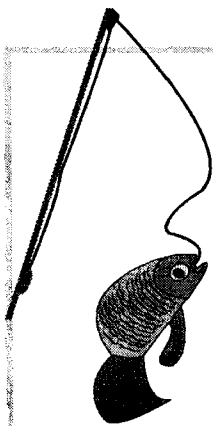
Have you thought of a wood laminate or maybe an Amtico/Karndean design floor?

All types of cushion vinyl and hard flooring

FREE ESTIMATES

For a quality finish ring ~

Lol Hinds 01296 688479
07767 786671 (mobile)



3 Island Lake Fishery

COARSE FISHING

**Mount Pleasant Farm
Dunton Road Stewkley**

**FISHING LIMITED TO
MEMBERSHIP**

**NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS
WELCOME**

TELEPHONE 01525 240451



The Chilterns Dog Rescue Society



Founded in 1963

01442 876009

Hog Lane, Ashley Green, Bucks

Open 7 days a week 10.30 am – 2.00 pm

**Please call or visit the office if you are
interested in :-**

- adopting a dog
- assisting with fundraising
- dog walking
- donating blankets/towels
collars/leads/money

No Dog Needlessly Destroyed

Registered Charity 257557 www.cdrrs.btinternet.co.uk

In The Village

Last Orders For The Bull

There was great disappointment in the village just before Christmas when news that the appeal for the Bull and Butcher development is to be allowed spread rapidly. Despite a long planning process, during which many villagers put forward objections and attended meetings, the developers are now free to go ahead with their plans for the site.

A number of villagers attended October's appeal, as did our local councillor Peter Cooper. Representatives of AVDC argued that the appeal should be dismissed and some villagers spoke against the development.

At the end of November planning inspector Terry G Phillimore issued a long judgement, in which he dismissed the many arguments put forward for trying to keep The Bull and Butcher as a public house.

Recognising that both current and emerging policies in the AVDC Local Plan seek to retain local facilities, Mr Phillimore nevertheless dismissed arguments upon this point: "I recognise that the appeal premises are valued as a social venue, but the village contains a small hall which, in spite of its physical limitations and being a different type of facility, does offer local meeting accommodation. Although an increase in village population would result from the appeal proposal, I nevertheless conclude that appropriate facilities would be available as an alternative to the appeal premises". Arguments that the Royal Oak could not match the function room facilities were acknowledged, but seen as "...a commercial operating matter and carries little weight in my considerations".

Dealing with the viability of the public house Mr Phillimore stated, "Some, local scepticism regarding the appellant's case has been expressed, and various alternative explanations given for the declining fortunes of the pub. The Council argues that past absence of profit does not demonstrate that the business cannot be made profitable. However, at the hearing the Council confirmed that it could identify no specific shortcomings in the appellant's evidence. In my view the evidence indicates that the pub is no longer a viable business and that a genuine attempt has been made to market it as a going concern...".

Our other objections were also dismissed: "I recognise the substantial local opposition that the proposal has generated, and that it would reduce the availability of local facilities within the village... However, I consider this to be outweighed by my findings on viability...".

Arguments about the appearance, impact and safety were similarly despatched: "I therefore conclude that the proposal would not detract from the character and appearance of the locality." and "...the proposal would not unduly harm the living conditions of neighbouring occupiers..." and "...the proposal would not result in significant harm to the free flow of traffic or highway safety in the vicinity".

Concluding that the appeal should be allowed Mr Phillimore laid down a number of conditions, but effectively gave a green light to the development.

Although Phillimore admitted that the four conditions laid down in local policy could not be fully determined or met, the comprehensive dismissal of both village and AVDC objections left nobody with any desire to pursue the matter further.

~ Phil Spooner

The Old Masters Closes

The Old Masters restaurant closed its doors on the 24th December, as Juan has decided to retire. Juan and Brigit Gutierrez opened The Old Masters on the 29th March 1985 in the former Aston Abbots schoolhouse, which had ceased to be a school back in 1975.

Juan and Brigit met in 1969, maybe a day or so after Juan had come to England from Madrid. Working in catering for many years, Juan decided to start his own restaurant after being made redundant by the Crows Nest in Tring. He saw many sites, but knew immediately he had found the right place when he saw the former school, which was by then a private residence.

Although the opening of a restaurant in the school caused quite a few raised eyebrows at the time, it soon became a part of the local community. Juan has kept much of the original building intact, adding only the front entrance porch.

Although the restaurant with its high quality cuisine was not used by the village for everyday eating, it will be much missed.

~ Phil Spooner

Let There Be Light!!

Like many good ideas, it started in the pub one Sunday lunchtime when 'Wilkie' said he was going to put up a few Christmas lights in his front garden and would any of us help him. As that lunchtime wore on, and more and more beer was quaffed; so the setting up and switching on of his lights assumed greater and greater importance. Great plans were made! We would arrange for a local celebrity to officially switch them on. A huge, noisy rocket would act as a maroon, alerting the entire village that the great event had taken place. There would be a party, and Wilkie would provide mulled wine for everyone.

By the time however, we were 'chucked out', it was pretty obvious that non of us were in any fit state to hold, let alone climb a ladder; and in any event Wilkie had forgotten where it was so we all (rather thankfully) went home.

Since the switching on was to take place at 630 the following Saturday (21st Dec.) all 630 members were notified; most turning up with 'other halves'. True to his word there was mulled wine for all. 'Chesh', our 'celebrity' gave a long and imposing speech before 'switching on' the lights and 'Major' Tim let off that very substantial and noisy rocket..

If there was a 'down-side' to the entire event, it was that Frank Macmanus, at the last minute, persuaded the entire assembly that the lights had been put on the house so we were all facing the wrong way when they were actually switched on.

Seemed a lot of effort just to switch on a dozen bulbs; but great fun!!! Very many thanks go to Ray and Sharon for being such good sports.



Street Lights

Gwen Kempster was our street lighting officer, but her move to Wales means that she has had to resign. If anyone wants to report a light out of order before she has been replaced they can contact any member of the PC or myself (numbers printed elsewhere in The Chronicle).

~ Kate Curry

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Wing Cars

- Airports
- Hospitals
- Collections
- Evenings Out



Private Hire:

Cars or
Minibus



Tel: (01296) 688739 or 681013

NO JOB TOO LARGE

Ask for details of our shopping trips.



A Peaceful Country retreat
for your Cat in Spacious
Heated Farm Accommodation

- ▽ Individual and family units,
in a converted barn
- ▽ Each unit incorporates a
separate heated sleeping
area and very spacious run
- ▽ All diets catered for -
24 hour supervision
- ▽ Secure and peaceful -
Inspections welcomed

Mrs Gillian Alexander -
01296 681104

South Tinkers Hole Farm,
Cublington Rd, Wing



Kitchens - Bedrooms
Studies - Offices
Fitted Furniture

Kitchens & Interiors

Showroom at
54 Western Road
Tring
Herts
HP23 4BB

Tel: 01442 890808

Eve: 01296 688878



Setting the Standards

You Could Advertise Here...

A half page advert costs just £25 for a whole year (11 issues)
Phone Ivan Greenaway on 01296 682605 ~ Email: ivan@livanti.com

Letters To The Editor

Dear Phil,

With reference to the Bonfire on the recreation ground, it has been necessary to clear away the non-combustible material that was heaped on the bonfire. This consisted of asbestos drain piping, a TV satellite dish, a car battery, yards of steel cable, various unidentified metal objects and approximately 20 glass bottles. All these items have incurred a cost to dispose of which I have met.

Next year only items that burn PLEASE.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely,

~ Richard Clarke.

Phil,

With reference to your recent article 'Why no Broadband Internet' I am currently setting up a local campaign to get the exchange at Wing converted to allow the villages to have access to the Broadband technology. People and businesses with a need for this faster connection can register at <http://www.broadband4britain.co.uk/heroes/wing> and when enough people have registered to make it commercially viable, BT will consider the upgrade. This is part of a UK wide campaign <http://www.broadband4britain.co.uk>

Regards,

~ Brian Smith

To Whom This May Concern,

We have lived in Aston Abbotts for over 30 years and are known as George, Christine and Christopher. We take offence at being called 'The Foxes'. We do not live in a hole in a field.

Thank You,

~ George, Christine and Christopher Fox

Something on your mind? Got something to say? This is the place to say it to Aston Abbotts. Your letters are always welcome, whatever the subject. Write to us at the address on page 2, or email us if you would prefer.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

TOM MANNING (Chairman)

5, Little Mollards, Twelve Leys, Wingrave ~ 682455

KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)

2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane ~ 681137

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

Carols With A Difference

The annual Carol service on Friday 13th. was fairly well attended, though I know several people were unable to attend as they had Christmas functions arranged [*that's bound to happen on a Friday evening just before Christmas - Ed*].

I found the service refreshingly different. The Rowsham Band played for us and this was a welcome innovation. I enjoyed the Carol sung by Claire Barnett which was her own composition. The poem read by Annie Cooper entitled "The Wicked Sinners" was most imaginative and very good. That lovely poem The Night Before Christmas was read with such enthusiasm, the readers should take to the stage! Reverend Bob Willmott was persuaded to sing a verse of a "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" and he rose to the occasion unflinchingly.

At the end of the service we all enjoyed mulled wine (infused with spices fresh from Cologne) and mince pies. It being a cold night the wine soon cooled and several mercy dashes to the hall had to be made to warm it up! It was a very welcome touch and thanks to all who helped provide and serve the refreshments. Thanks of course to everyone involved in providing us with this annual village event from which so many people, regular church goers or not, derive so much pleasure.

~ Carol Spooner

Our Carol Service with the Rowsham Band was a great success and especially the mulled wine and mince pies and of course our 'Singing Vicar'. The church had been decorated in the usual festival arrangement, so thanks to all the ladies who helped in this task.

~ Colin Higgs

Bull Christmas Party

The back bar of the Bull and Butcher was busy for what was almost certainly the last Bull Christmas party, if not the last party that will be held there.

Lol Hinds kept the music going and before long many were dancing. Frank and Louise laid on a super buffet and our thanks to them for putting on the party.

~ Phil Spooner.

Ladies Club

Our meeting held on the 28th Nov. was well supported. The chairman commenced by welcoming members followed by the minutes being read and signed.. Members then discussed the next meeting, due to be held on 19th Dec. and which was to be a social afternoon followed by our Carol Service at St James Church. Business over, she welcomed Mr. Mike Henty who gave a talk and display about crystals and other precious stones. He was afterwards thanked by Margaret Kent. Joan Alexander and Mary Morris served tea and Doreen Powis won the raffle.

~ Shirley Ford

Valentines Day

If you would like a Valentines Day message printed in February's Chronicle be sure to make sure you get it to us before Friday 24th January.

S. J. LEE

**ALL ASPECTS OF
QUALITY
CARPENTRY,
JOINERY AND
KITCHEN
INSTALLATION**

FREE ESTIMATES

MOBILE: 07957 364175 TEL: 01296 681979



Perfect Cut



In the comfort of your own home
No parking problems



Fully qualified stylist to advanced City & Guilds level
London trained – previous salon owner



For appointment phone
01296 681413
0777 186 7776



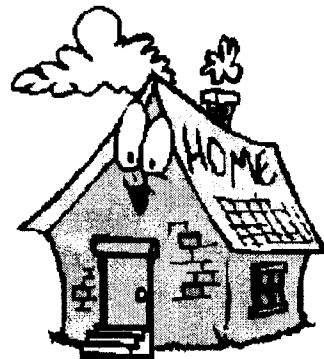
Reference available



THINKING OF EXTENDING?

**YOU WILL NEED DETAILED
DRAWINGS, PLANNING
PERMISSION, BUILDING
REGULATIONS CONSENT.**

**FOR ALL YOUR DRAWING NEEDS,
PHONE DAVID ON
WINGRAVE 01296 682529
FOR A QUOTE AND ADVICE.**



The Village Hall - More News

My fairly upbeat report in the November Chronicle was obviously tempting providence. Since then it has been a case of "one step forward, two steps back"! The Solicitors who act for the Bishop of Oxford have now written saying that:

1. Because of a piece of legislation called The Incumbents & Churchwardens (Trusts) Measure, the present (Church) Trustees should have vested the Hall in (i.e. transferred the legal estate to) the Oxford Diocesan Corporation as Custodian Trustee. They have not done so, and this must be done before the proposed lease can be granted. Quite apart from the cost involved (which I hope the Church will bear), this will delay things by 3 months, since notice of the transfer of the property to the Custodian Trustee must be given and advertised, and three months must elapse before the transfer can be completed (presumably to give time for anyone to object).

2. They believe that a document called an "Albemarle Schedule" must be prepared, before the Hall can be used for other than ecclesiastical purposes. If they are right, then their costs for doing this, which will be in the region of £1,000 will have to be paid, together with the costs of a surveyor whom the Church will also want to involve, and these are likely to be a further £700. There will also be VAT on both of these sets of costs, and about £40/£50 for disbursements. I personally believe that they may be mistaken, since in my view the 1897 Conveyance which conveyed the Hall to the original Trustees had a very wide "user" clause, which already allows the Hall to be used for a large number of non-ecclesiastical purposes, and I

think would permit any of the uses to which the village would wish to put it, as and when the lease is granted. I asked the Solicitor who now acts for the Church Trustees to seek a ruling from the Charity Commission, which he has done. When I last spoke to him, immediately before Christmas, he was still awaiting their reply. While I can see a strong theoretical argument for saying that these costs should at worst be split between the Church Trustees and the Village Hall Trustees, the Church's present financial plight means that the Village Hall Trustees will have to bear the whole of the costs, if it becomes apparent that they are necessary.

The Village Hall steering committee held a meeting before Christmas, at which it was decided that, if necessary, the Village Hall Trustees would pay these costs, although they very much hoped that it would not be. While it was very irritating to have to spend so much of the money that had been raised on something like this, we were faced with the problem that the Church Hall is the only possible venue for the Village Hall, and we know that unless the toilet and kitchen facilities are upgraded, the time will shortly come when the Hall will have to close down, because it does not meet current Building Regulations. The Solicitor who acts for the Church Trustees has been advised accordingly, and asked to press the Charity Commission for a decision as to whether an Albemarle Schedule is needed.

I hope to have more news for you next month.

~ The Chronicle Legal Correspondent

Countdown To Fame

Do you fancy a post-Christmas brain-teaser? If so, then stop reading at the end of this paragraph, and try the following: What is the longest word you can make out of the letters A E C H I L N T U? You have just 30 seconds, starting ... NOW!

How did you do? If you managed better than a 6-letter word, then I can tell you that you stand a fair chance of appearing on television.

As some of you will know, I have endured a period of enforced leisure during much of the past year. If you caught sight during the summer of someone pounding around the streets of Aston Abbots with hardly any clothes on, that was probably me, passing the time of day in a vain attempt to get fit.

Having all this spare time also enabled me to become familiar with some TV programmes that in the normal course of events I wouldn't have been at home to watch. One of these was *Countdown*, the Channel 4 programme with Richard Whiteley and Carol Vorderman. Round about last April, I decided that I might like to have a go, and sent off an application form. I then promptly forgot all about it, until in October I received an invitation to attend an audition in Oxford the following week.

Along I went to the Randolph Hotel, for a 10 o'clock start. I was directed to a room on the first floor, where the programme researcher was waiting, together with four other lambs for the slaughter: a man and a woman of retirement age, and two other men, one about my age and one a bit younger.

Over the course of the next three-quarters of an hour, we had 7 "Letters" rounds, of which the example at the top of this article was the first, interspersed with 3 "Numbers" rounds, and followed at the end by 3 conundrums (nine-letter anagrams to

unravel). Unlike the programme itself, all the examples had been pre-selected, so the researcher knew the 'correct' answers.

Here is one of the numbers rounds (the only one I can remember): given the numbers 100, 75, 50, 25, 2 and 2, your target is to make 704 using only the normal arithmetical symbols +, - * and /

I didn't think I'd done terribly well at all. I only got a six-letter word ('launch') out of the letters above, and almost everyone else did better than that. I didn't get any of the three number targets spot on - I only managed 702 on the example above. That was really disappointing, as I'd normally regard the numbers as my strong suit. And I only got two of the three conundrums. I did however get a couple of 8-letter words, which were also got by some of the others in the room, and I was pleased to be the only person in the room to find a 9-letter word on one of the other rounds.

I left, expecting to get a polite letter telling me that I hadn't been quite good enough. (I've had quite a few of those, one way and another, this past year). Much to my surprise however, the following week I received a letter telling me that I'd been successful, and that I would be invited up to Leeds for a recording session at YTV in the New Year. I don't have a date for that yet, but if Mr Ed is prepared to indulge me, I'll report back on how it went in a future article. (And depending on how I do, I might even let on when you'll be able to watch me!)

Oh yes, the answers: there is a nine-letter word hidden in there - it's 'unethical'. And the solution to the numbers puzzle is $((100+75)*2+2)*50/25$

~ Mike Wenble

*The Carpenter's Arms,
Stewkley.*

*"We drank here, socialized here, and
so we 'bought' the Pub!"*

**Ian and Paula welcome you to their friendly village Pub
/ Restaurant.**

A great welcome, and friendly people.

FRESHLY PREPARED FOOD served
Tuesday to Sunday, **DIETARY
PREFERENCES A SPECIALTY**

REAL ALES and GOOD WINE

TAKE AWAY SERVICE

GARDEN with CHILDREN'S PLAY area

SMOKE FREE area.

Unobtrusive **TV** for sporting events, and
varied quiet background music.

**As ex-customers ourselves we understand more of your
needs. Come and see for yourself, you'll be made very
welcome.**

1 Wing Road, Stewkley, Beds. LU7 0JB. Telephone & Fax 01525 240272

Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 10th December 2002

Present : T.Manning (Chairman), R.Clarke, M.Kent, and Mrs K.Curry (Clerk). One member of the public attended. Apologies were received from County Cllr Brenda Jennings.

Following the resignation of Councillor John Sansome, it was necessary to elect a new Chairman. Tom Manning was unanimously elected to serve as Chairman until the election next May. He signed the declaration of acceptance of office. Votes of thanks were given to John Sansome and Gwen Kempster for their many years of service on the Parish Council.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed. Matters Arising included the welcome news that Mrs. Jennifer Armstrong has consented to become our nominee for Minor Authority Governor at Wingrave School. The Clerk reported that the two vacant posts for Councillors have been advertised - as soon as the required period is over the Parish Council will be able to co-opt new councillors.

County Council, District Council And Police Matters

No one was present from the Police Station at Wing despite the fact that the Clerk had written to request that our new Officer be encouraged to attend a meeting in the near future.

No one was present from the County or District Councils. The Clerk agreed to contact District Cllr Peter Cooper about the burned out shed at the entrance to Badger's Oak Farm.

Comments From The Floor

Concern was expressed that the Refuse Freighter was not advertised, therefore very few people used it. This will hopefully be rectified next year.

An enquiry was made as to whether the village may qualify for a grant to have visits from a mobile Post Office. It was agreed to try and find out more.

Freedom Of Information Act 2002

Resolved to adopt the Parish Council Model Scheme, which will now be publicised.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST PANTOMIME

Cheddington Pantomime Group presents our best ever Panto - Beauty and the Beast - its got everything... lots of laughs, great music, romance, magic and audience participation. The fun starts on Wednesday 15th January to Saturday 18th January 2003 at Cheddington Village Hall.

Tickets start from £5 for adults and £3.50 for concessions and are available from the box office on 01296 668033.

"I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I was six. Mother took me to see him in a department store and he asked for my autograph." ~ Shirley Temple.

Planning

02/02870/ALB Home Farm, 61 The Green. Alterations to fenestration and porch. Resolved to make no comment on this application.

02/02519/APP Saddlers Farm, Cublington Road. Change of use from stables to Bed and Breakfast accommodation. (Now re advertised as a barn conversion). Resolved to make no comment on this application.

Highways

Flooding - It was reported that the part of The Green between the shop and Nash's Farm floods particularly badly. The Council will request this stretch be resurfaced. It was noted that various trees in the village need lopping.

Recreation Ground

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

To discuss an action plan following the Annual Playground Inspection - The Council will obtain quotes for the essential maintenance work which needs doing. Also to seek to have a larger gate installed to replace the broken one.

The old mower store has now been removed.

Accounts

The draft budget for 2003-4 was discussed. It will be finalised at the next meeting, at which the Precept must also be set.

The next meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 15th January 2003 at 8pm in the Church Room.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

CHILTERN HILLS VINTAGE VEHICLE RALLY 2003

- SUNDAY, 18th MAY -

AT WESTON ROAD, ASTON CLINTON

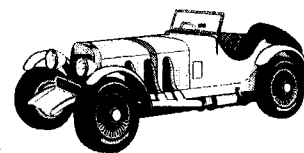
TRADE STANDS - AUTOJUMBLE

REFRESHMENTS - LICENCED BAR

CRAFT MARQUEE AND
OTHER ATTRACTIONS

720 ENTRIES IN 2002

ALL CLASSES OF VINTAGE
VEHICLES WELCOME



WOODLANDS FARM, ASTON CLINTON

01296 631666

The above Rally Event is run by the Game Club Charity, which makes donations to individuals and worthy causes within the Aylesbury area where assistance is not covered by any National Charity. If you know of any one who's in need of assistance, for whatever reason, send in details to The Chairman, the Game Club, c/o The Partridge Arms, Green End Street, Aston Clinton, Bucks.

BIGNELL & BRANDON

**Carpentry, Glazing,
General Building and
Maintenance**

Aylesbury 681242 Aylesbury 681972

Mobiles 07979 804516 or 07768 126612

THE CHRONICLE

Advertising rates per annum

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

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

Send copy and cheque payable to

The Chronicle to

Ivan Greenaway, 1 Nash's Farm,

Aston Abbots, Aylesbury

Tel 01296 682605

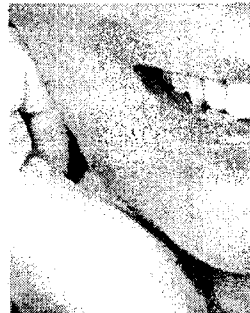
Country



Style



Hair & Beauty



“Our philosophy is quite simple, an absolute commitment to outstanding quality of haircare with total care and commitment to quality beauty treatments coupled with an unparalleled level of service and good humour”

6/8 High Street

Wing

Leighton Buzzard

Bedfordshire

LU7 0NR

Tel: (01296) 688117

www.countrystylehair.co.uk

ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM



Available for

Wedding Receptions

Birthday Parties

Folk Evenings

Dances : Bingo

Just about anything!

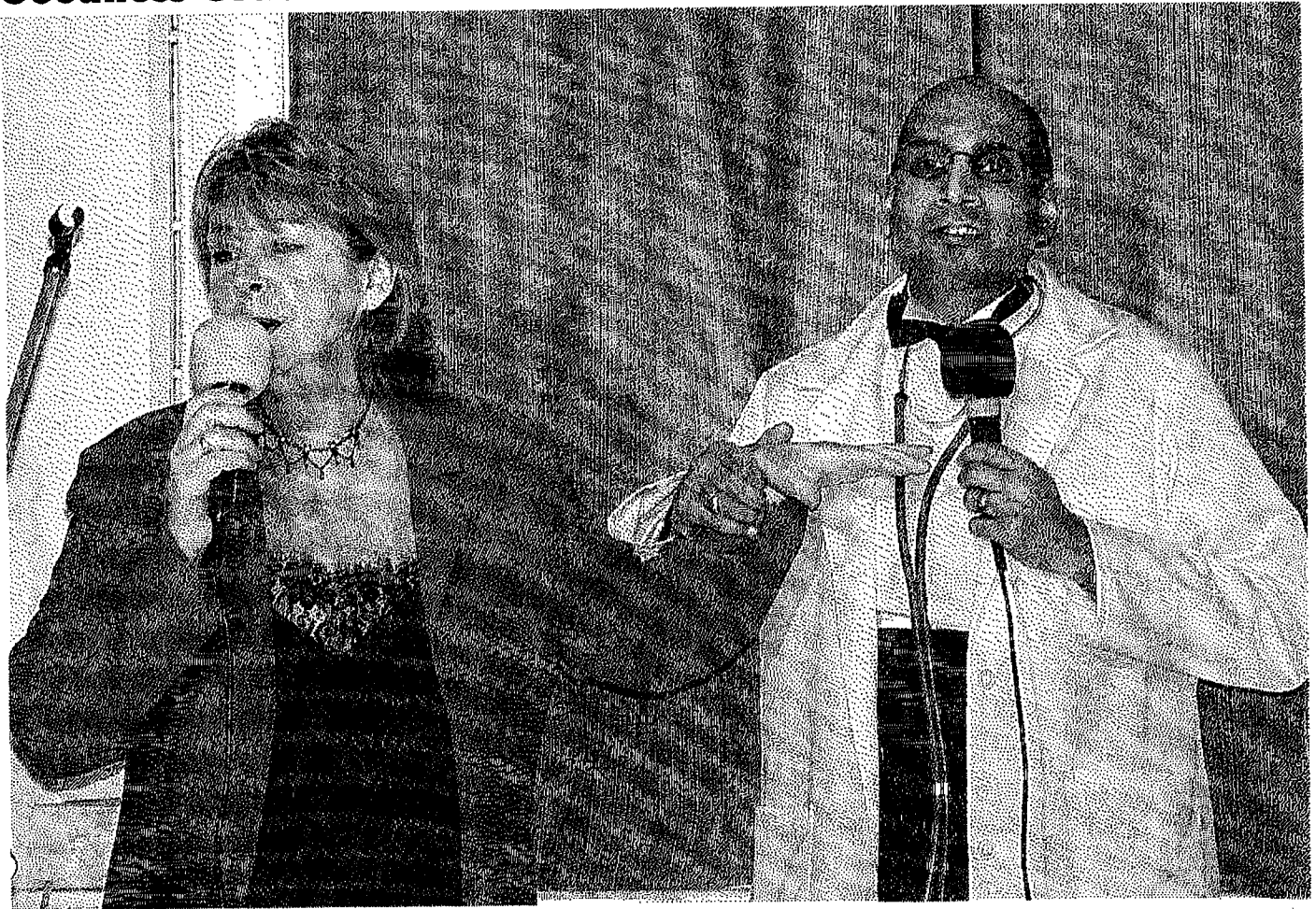
Maximum 60 people

For further details call
Doris Scutchings on
01296 681243

Cost £5 per hour +
metered electricity

£2.50 per hour + metered
electricity for Parish
residents

Goodness Gracious Me



Bridget Brandon and Avi Gupta bring the house down at the cabaret with their hilarious version of Goodness Gracious Me

When I was coerced to join in this year's infamous Aston Abbots cabaret I didn't realise that as a newcomer it involved writing about it as well! Never mind I did record it all – bar one song (sorry Whytie) so it gave me an excuse to watch it all again. We are hoping to arrange a viewing or even make it available on video/DVD – watch this space.

All were suitably attired in their glam rags and enjoyed some delicious home made food prepared by the good ladies of AA including (sorry if I've missed anyone) Deirdre, Ann, Alison, Anita, Francesca, Margaret, Jacky...) before being dictated to by the compare for the evening—the great Dave Lewis—who I understand was a little more restrained this year.

The show kicked off with a fast moving number 'Leroy Brown' by the Four Tops (Bottoms?) of AA—John Whyte, John Brancker, Neil Cheshier & Nigel Palmer—and ended with some stunning strobe lighting effects (courtesy Phil Spooner) as the four acted out a gun fight on stage.

Next up was the main man and show director Neil on sax, with his son John on guitar, playing the first record that Neil

had purchased. We gather he had a full head of red hair at the time. Meanwhile sound director Phil was sorting out a buzzing noise using the subtle approach—i.e. shouting out, "it's the guitar lead"!

Gordon Smith was to follow—one of many with a Count Dracula hairstyle (I'm only jealous, being even balder). He was making a comeback and a very good one it was too, playing a rather smooth jazzy number, which had the audience swaying.

Then another change of tune, our local Customs and Excise officer warning of the unpleasant undertones of domestic violence in AA. We heard the moving case of an anonymous victim who suffered many years of sleep deprivation waiting for her partner to return from the pub, not clearing the plate after dinner and the unforgivable sin of him not noticing a change of nail colour. The real victim it was later revealed was in fact a male—AKA "rear-entry Lewis"—whatever that means?

We were also informed of sensationalism in the 'The Chronicle', misrepresenting the lovely Diwali Party by showing a large picture of a foul-mouthed frustrated losing gambler harassing the poor Mrs

Gupta. Mind you I don't know if I agree with Mr Whyte's comments regarding the good Dr Gupta's advice of two viagras, a bottle of wine and an early night – I'm sure I said at least two bottles of wine!

"How do I follow that?" were Mr Lewis's only comments. Well, with a Buddy Holly number performed by Bridget Brandon using some special effects from Neil's organ, in effect giving us the voice of many Bridgets – what an impressive tool you have Neil!

One of everyone's favourite acts followed with John Brancker's rendition of George Formby's 'When I'm Cleaning Windows'. John had a rather magnificent outfit, although it has to be said he did look more like a cross between Benny Hill and Bugs Bunny [*and his teeth fell out halfway through the first verse ~ Ed*].

A new act was next, with Simon 'shoulders' Creswell's excellent performance of Stealers Wheel's 'Stuck In The Middle'. This real closet performer had the audience cheering and clapping along with him, although we have it on good word that he does not do this at

(Continued on page 15)

A M Bystra

For all your
Painting & Decorating
needs

Call for a
Free Estimate:

Quality Painting & Decorating

1 long Moor Farm Cottages
Cublington Rd
Aston Abbotts
Aylesbury

Phone: 01296 688429

Mobile: 0776 1129386

Email: Adrian.bystra@talk21.com



www.ambdecorate.com

WINGRAVE PRE-SCHOOL

for ages 2½ - 5

Monday to Friday 9:30 - 12:00

The Community Centre, Church Street, Wingrave

Qualified staff

Ofsted inspected

Government voucher scheme for 3-4 year olds

Children's learning is promoted in a friendly
& fun atmosphere

Contact:

Claire Upton on 01296 681700 or Sonya Hardy on 01296 688833

home—at least not for his good lady Claire.

Nigel followed suit with a light-hearted version of 'White Christmas' from a canine perspective, although the animal lovers amongst us were rather concerned by the way he was handling his cuddly toy on stage. His talented son Anthony accompanied him.

The up until now somewhat subdued compere, managed to sneak in his first rude joke which offended all the BMW owners but they soon forgot to beat the **** out of him after Gordon's second performance—'Kodachrome'.

We then had the first blunder of the night, which had two waiting performers sweating with concern. Tony Rees was preparing himself to go on stage after one more song when he heard himself being cued while Bridget and I were ready and waiting, suddenly thinking we were being left out! Order was soon resumed and the panic had settled so the audience was subjected to the talented Bridget and myself.

'Goodness Gracious Me', a comic song by Peter Sellers and Sophia Loren, was our chosen number and we finally managed a whole song without one of us bursting into laughter. We were both rather typecast, but the audience were in stitches listening to my grossly exaggerated Indian accent whilst trying to deal with a sexually charged patient—if only reality was this good!

Déjà vu ensued as Dave Lewis repeated his introduction for Tony Rees, who was now ready but could not quite get his *rse in gear when starting Rod Stewart's 'First Cut Is The Deepest'. The problem was that the stuffing in his trousers to recreate the Stewart *derriere* was tickling his own, so he couldn't stop laughing!

The especially glamorous Anne Brancker followed with a very appropriate song about 'An Old Fashioned Millionaire', or her 60-year-old millionaire as was made apparent at the end of her beautifully delivered version.

Bridget followed on with a brilliant performance of Shania Twain's 'You're Still The One', especially good considering no one could find her words!

Equally brilliant was the second song of 'Shoulders' Creswell—Billy Joel's 'Piano Man'. He was very energetic on stage and had the audience joining in with the chorus. He even had my two nippers dancing when I was reviewing the video—there was no fast forwarding this song.

Dave then took it upon himself to lower the tone again with some rude and unrepeatable (but funny) jokes apparently donated by the Ladies Club – rumour has it that a certain Margaret Kent was the instigator. I will leave it up to you to decide if you think that stories about Viagra, Mongolian VD and Victoria Beckham could originate from such a cultivated source?

Tony Rees's second performance was ZZ Top's 'Give Me All Your Loving' and again he had a most impressive costume, comprising a large Santa type beard, dark glasses and a floppy hat and guitar. He head-banged with such enthusiasm that he knocked his hat off, hitting the microphone.

John Whyte was involved in a few more songs—is there no stopping him? His best was 'The Lady Is A Tramp'. This was the only song I managed to mess up

on the video, capturing very little (if any) of it, probably being affected by the wine and beer at this stage—sorry again John. He was also joined by Neil and John B. for 'You Were Always On My Mind' - Neil and JB were swaying in unison backing up John – though why they had their hands covering their (own) privates is anyone's guess.

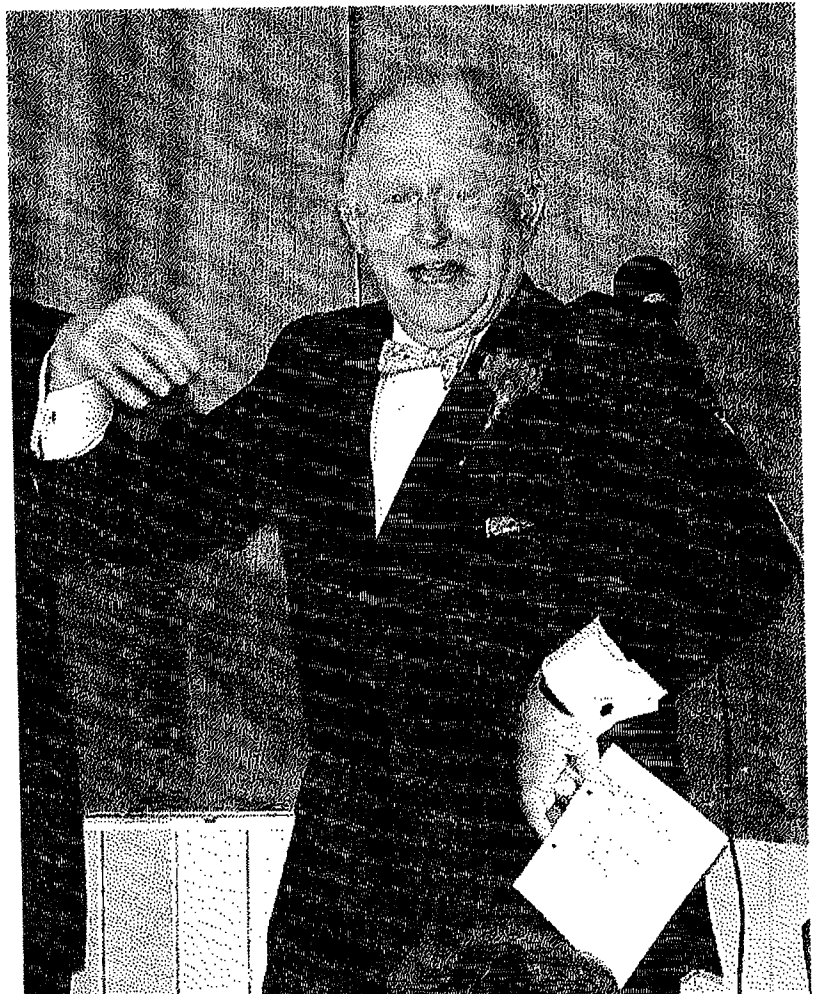
The *finale* was a medley from 'The Sound Of Music' complete with audience participation, starting with 'Doh, a deer' (with all the actions) followed by 'Raindrops & Roses', by which time more people had joined the stage. 'Edelweiss' and the yodelling song followed, though the latter sounded more and more like a pack of wolves the more it was sung (by the audience and artists). Then it was back to Doh.

Neil was now getting very carried away until he was rudely interrupted by the obviously drunk and attention seeking Indian doctor with his own version of 'Doh, a deer' - apparently Homer Simpson's favourite beer drinking song (information from the doctors cousin Apu we understand).

So the show ended with the usual thanks to the performers, musicians and helpers followed by a trip to the Bull & Butcher as recommended on medical grounds.

I must admit that I knew that Aston Abbots was full of artists but it was not until the night of the cabaret that I appreciated that there are also artists of the more talented kind – a great show, one of the best apparently. Well done to ALL involved

~ Words by Avi Gupta. Pictures by Ivan Greenaway



Musical director Neil Chesher

HARDWICK PRE-SCHOOL

JOHN BRIDLES HALL
LOWER ROAD, HARDWICK

Our school caters for children aged between 2½ and 4½ years old.

We are open for 5 mornings a week between 9.30am and 12.15pm and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 12.15pm to 2.45pm.

Sessions for children aged 3 or over are free subject to the provision of government vouchers.

Children generally leave our group to attend Whitchurch Combined School.

Come and meet our friendly, caring staff and read our excellent OFSTED reports.

Please telephone the Play Leaders

Tracey Creed 01296 714889
Kym Sims 01296 688169

Laura Dempsey Qualified Saddler



Full repair service, including rugs
Side saddle renovation and repair
Saddles repaired & reflocked - plus fitting service
Authorised Supplier & Fitter of
"Flair Ride on Air" Saddle System
Why not try riding your horse in a "Flair" Saddle?
For a trial, contact me.

24, High St. North Marston, Bucks MK18 3PD
Tel/fax :- 01296-670201
e-mail :- Dempsey@cheekpiece.fsnet.co.uk

Alison J Whittaker

B.A. Hons. Music

Piano, Electric Keyboard &
Theory of Music Teacher

10 Recreation Ground Cottages
Wingrave

Nr. Aylesbury

Bucks. HP22 4PH

Tel: (01296) 681639

LEARNING FRENCH or SPANISH CAN BE FUN

- With tuition at home that you can share with friends
- Courses for complete beginners or any level, at times to suit
- Includes background to the culture of the country
- Plenty of variety, lots of practice (Social and/or business)
- Tutor currently teaching in Cublington, references can be supplied

Please phone Malcolm Burrell
for further information telephone



01525 221413



PAINTER AND DECORATOR & GENERAL REPAIRS

"VALENTINE COTTAGE"

43 QUANTON ROAD

NORTH MARSTON

BUCKS

MK18 3PR

Home 01296 670950

Mobile 07803 610 152

A Place In The Sun by James Clarke

Have you ever dreamt of living in a place where the sun shines nearly all year round? Where the average temperature is 22 degrees? Where the sea is as warm as a bath and the golden beaches stretch for mile upon mile? Well if you have, and the onset of winter is making you shiver at it's very thought ... then read on!

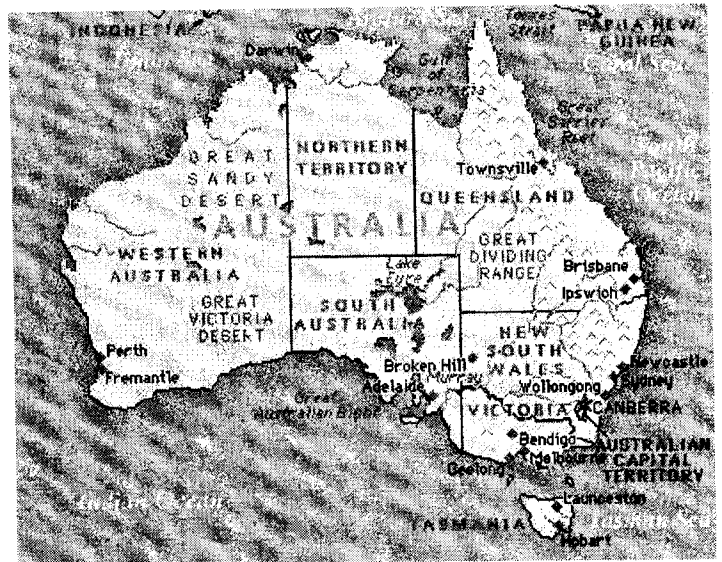
My wife, Claudine, and I moved from Buckingham to Australia's Gold Coast (an hours drive south of Brisbane), fourteen months ago. Since getting married four years ago we had been contemplating the move and as Claudine herself is an Australian - we were sort of half way there anyway! So, with visas organised and our furniture and belongings already on a cargo ship bound for Oz's sunny shores, we boarded a plane at Heathrow with mixed feelings. At that point I had just said goodbye to my parents (Richard and Sally Clarke), and I didn't know when I would see them again. To make matters worse I'm an only child so you can imagine the wrench felt by all of us; but we had weighed up the pros and cons a thousand times and the bottom line was that we just had to give it a go there. We had a wonderful opportunity that many people only dream of, and we ultimately felt that not to go would be our biggest mistake.

We landed twenty-five hours later, in Brisbane, and were met by Claudine's parents. Then, after sleeping for what seemed like a week - we finally realised that our dream had at last come true. I had been to Australia ten years earlier on a backpackers trip and had covered most of it, but as I was to find, a holiday is one thing - to actually make a home overseas is quite another!

Everything was different! The heat (at that time 30 degrees), the humidity, (up to 95%), the houses, the shops, the cars ... Everything! I think the first differences I noticed were in the television programs. In particular the news. Instead of the heavy political content of our own current affairs programmes, the Aussie's don't have bickering politicians dominating the news day after day. Obviously they are not a major political world power like us, and I found this reflected in the news. Of course all important and relevant items are reported but they don't have endless so called 'experts' and 'analysts' banging on, and I found that they devote a fair chunk of the news to more important things like the surf and fishing reports.

Once acclimatised, Claudine and I started to explore the area. The Gold Coast was new to her too, as her parents recently moved there from Sydney. We started with the large swimming pool situated in her parent's complex, and moved on to Burleigh beach which is only a five-minute drive away, and has golden sand and large surf. In fact it regularly holds world class surfing competitions. Lifeguards patrol the beach and have a flag system to indicate where it is safe to swim. You can swim outside these areas, but at your own peril ... the riptides are notoriously strong!

Claudine found another nearby place called Tallebudgera Creek, which was calmer as it was just an inlet from the sea. With it's crystal clear waters and small beach we lapped up the sun and thought of cloudy Aston Abbotts! We were shocked to find fish swimming around our legs as we ventured into the water! We got another shock when we returned and Claudine's Dad told us that 'Tallebudgera' is an Aboriginal word that literally means 'Man eaten by crocodile'! He did assure us though that the crocs had long gone; but you do have to be careful, not just when swimming but in just about everything you do to avoid being bitten by something! If it's not



mosquitoes, it's spiders or snakes! I quickly learned to bang my shoes on the ground each morning, in case anything nasty had crawled in there during the night!

Within two months Claudine, who is a speech and drama teacher, had secured a good job at a large private school on the Coast called 'All Saints School.' She is really enjoying it and as she teaches the LAMDA syllabus, (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) she has single-handedly introduced this syllabus to Australia! An examiner even flew out from London to judge her students!

As for me I have struggled to get permanent work but I know that it is just a matter of time. In the meantime I have discovered writing and recently won a national short story competition out there. I'm currently over here in the U.K. for Christmas and the New Year to see my family, which is great for all of us! It was while I was in the Bull and Butcher that I got talking to Phil Spooner and he encouraged me to write something for The Chronicle - Aston Abbotts' premier publication!

Australia is a great place, but I'll leave you with a poignant story if I may, one of many that have rocked that country recently. I had a temporary job on one of the many golf courses on the Coast, and it was while working there that I made friends with a guy who went to Bali for a holiday - and he was caught in the bombing of the 'Sari' nightclub. Amazingly, his brother was caught in the World Trade Centre attacks a year earlier but got out unscathed, and his luck must have rubbed off on my friend, as he too got away with only some shards of glass in his leg. I say got away with - as his companion was not so lucky and was killed. It's a sobering thought about the world today, that the news reports and in depth discussions that I was so glad to leave behind, now seem to be a part of Australian life too.

~ James Clarke

Coo

My thanks to Peter Knight for sending a large cutting from the British Homing World—The Racing Pigeon magazine. The cutting shows the sale of Mr Eggleton's (of Longmoor Barns) large pigeon stock. Apparently Mr Eggleton is selling up and moving on, so we wish him well and bid him farewell.

~ Phil Spooner

Hair by Jane

In the comfort of
Your own home

20 years experience
Special rates for
pensioners

For enquiries or appointment
please ring Jane on:-

01296 437624
Or
07778 971848 (mobile)



Spanish, English and Continental Cuisine

Spanish, à la carte and Vegetarian menu

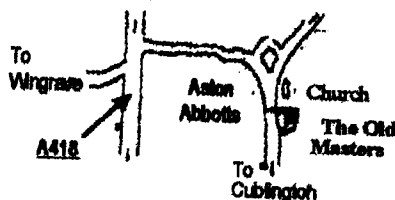
Weddings. All Special Occasions

To Weeton & A413

LUNCH BY
APPOINTMENT

Dinner:

Monday - Saturday
7.00pm - 9.00pm



Telephone 01296 681432

FULLY LICENSED

Andalucia ~ the perfect setting for your holiday

Duplex to sleep 6

3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Kitchen, Lounge, Patio
Swimming Pool and Gardens

Situated in the fishing port of Caleta on the Costa del Sol.
40 Minutes drive from Malaga airport.
A quiet location close to all amenities.

Available to rent throughout the year

Call Iain or Sue on 01296 688 779

QUALIFIED CARPENTER

RELIABLE WITH COMPETITIVE RATES

KITCHEN, FLOORING, WARDROBES, DOORS,
DECKING, ANY HOUSEHOLD CARPENTRY
NO JOB TOO SMALL

COME ON LADIES! GET SOMEONE ELSE TO
DO ALL THOSE JOBS YOU'VE BEEN ASKING
HUBBY TO DO FOR AGES!

PHONE ANDY ON: 01525 240691

Lincoln's

High Street, Whitchurch
Tel. 641384

**GENERAL STORES
& OFF LICENCE**

HOME DELIVERY SERVICE

Lincoln's Store is happy to offer this service to help the elderly, housebound or the just 'too fed up with shopping'

24 hour notice - Free service within the village of Whitchurch and a £2 delivery or £20 minimum order to customers in surrounding villages.

Fresh bread delivered daily - fresh vegetables - groceries - plus a wide range of household requisites and stationery, confectionery and drinks.

We can also offer a dry cleaning and shoe repairing service - and even bulk supplies of pet food.

OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday
8.00am-5.00pm

Saturday
8.00am-1.00pm

Sunday
9.30am - 1pm.

Rectors Report

Over the past few years we have grown used to the idea of people undergoing cosmetic surgery. Years ago people had face-lifts to try to make them appear younger and more attractive. Then there were "nose-jobs" and various other procedures to other parts of the anatomy. As this is an area that has not particularly appealed to me, I have no strong views on the matter.

But I am not sure that I can be very happy about the prospect of face transplants. My guess is that it will be very many years, if ever, before these enter the "cosmetic surgery" arena. After all, there will have to be donors. Can you imagine being offered a brochure full of available faces and having to select whom you would like to look like? Or maybe we shall be able to choose to look like some film-star/politician or whatever. Would anyone really want to have your face or mine?

Our problem is that people recognise us by looking at our face. There has been research, I think, into the specific bits of face and their relation to each other that we use to recognise each other. But if we were all to surgically change our faces, what

confusion there would be! It would certainly bring new meaning to the term "two faced".

It will almost certainly create more identity crises. As people look philosophically into the mirror, how will they cope with what they see? How will they attempt to answer the question "Who am I?" For what they will see staring back will not be a face (a person) that they recognise. Yes, these are my eyes, but they seem somehow out of place. It is as though we have adopted a mask – and we use masks to hide our identity.

Maybe "cosmetic" face transplants are a very long way down the road. For myself, I think my resolve for the New Year is to accept myself, with all my blemishes and imperfections. But that doesn't mean that I will not work at improving my relationship with God and with other people – because it is surprising how many people can see through our many disguises.

Have a Happy New Year.

~ Bob Willmott

Wingrave School Citizenship Award Scheme

I am sure everyone will agree that real education is about a lot more than just acquiring knowledge and passing exams. There are few things more important in the curriculum of life than helpfulness and kindness towards fellow human beings.

At Wingrave C of E Combined School the governors and staff fully believe this and strive to be good examples themselves to the pupils. Most of all they want to know about and praise good deeds done by the pupils, and this is my reason for writing these few lines.

Please let us know of specific instances when our pupils have gone out of their way to help others. For example, in your own home, perhaps one of your children has helped an elderly or disabled neighbour without any thought of being rewarded. Or perhaps you have been nearby when a pupil has helped another child who has been threatened or bullied by an older child.

When we know about such acts of good citizenship we will enter the details in the special Good Citizenship Award book kept in a place of honour in the school foyer. You may contact the school either directly by phone (681436) or, if you prefer, you may write a brief account and hand it in at the village shop. Or, you may ring me, Bryan Round, one of the school governors, on 681621 and I will pass the information on the head teacher.

~ Bryan Round

One beautiful Sunday morning, a Minister announced to his congregation, "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a £1,000 sermon that lasts five minutes, a £500 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a £100 sermon that lasts a full hour. Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."

The angry wife met her husband at the door. There was alcohol on his breath, and lipstick on his collar. "I assume," she snarled, "that there's a very good reason for you to come waltzing in here at six o'clock in the morning?" "There is..." he replied, "...Breakfast."

Electrical Repairs To Your Church

As many of you will already know, a recent test of the electrical installation at St James Church showed that there was work to be done to replace some worn out and out-dated components.

It is YOUR Church!

For obvious reasons, this work is fairly urgent.

It is YOUR Church!

But the trouble is that we haven't got the money! (The cost is just under £2,000). That is actually about £20 per household in Aston Abbots – which doesn't seem a very great deal. We know that January is not a good month to be asking for money as we all struggle to regain control of our finances after Christmas – but the sooner we can find the money, the sooner the repairs can be put in hand.

It is YOUR Church!

Please can you help – either with a Gift of say £10 - £25 (or more if you wish)* – or maybe you would be prepared to make an interest-free Loan to the Church for a year or two of maybe £100 - £200?

It is YOUR Church!

Needless to say, we shall be pleased to receive whatever you can manage to ensure that your Church can continue to serve the people of Aston Abbots.

It is YOUR Church!

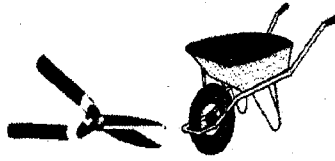
* If you are a tax-payer, you can make your gift more valuable to the Church by using Gift Aid. Just by filling in and signing a very simple form with your name and address, the Church is able to reclaim the tax that you have already paid on the money you give us.

It is YOUR Church!

If you would like to help please contact Bob Wilmot on 681623, or send donations to The Rectory, Wingrave, HP22 4PA. Please make cheques payable to "Aston Abbots PCC". Gift Aid forms can be obtained from Bob Willmott.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR GARDEN ?

Pruning and strimming
Hedge Cutting
Weeding etc...



Experienced in all garden
maintenance - No job too small !

**REMOVAL OF WASP NESTS
NOW UNDERTAKEN !**



Reasonable rates -

CALL Alan Kempster on 01239 881348

or on his mobile on 079 560 34888

Painting and Decorating

Interior and Exterior

including specialist finishes

graining, marbling, murals etc.

Highest quality work,

lowest rates

References available.

L J Waring 01296 688185

THINKING ABOUT HOLIDAYS NEXT YEAR?

**We have a holiday home for rent in
LYME REGIS, DORSET**

for weekends or weekly lets all year round.

**Sleeps 4-7. Close to town and beaches,
beautiful views overlooking
Lyme Bay and Golden Cap.**

Ring Helen and Simon Dowling for further details

01525 383315



Woodland Flowers
 by Margaret Jarvis
 Tel/Fax: 01908 503502 Mobile: 0403 197799
 Thrift Wood, Buckingham Rd, Whaddon
 Milton Keynes MK17 0EQ

Wingrave Netball Club
 7-9 year olds, 9-10 am every Saturday during term time at WINGRAVE SCHOOL. (£1 per session)
 10-13 year olds, 9-10 am every Saturday during term time at WINGRAVE NEWPARK. Contact Sandy (coach) if interested on 688952
 14 yrs—adults, 10-11.30 am every Saturday at WINGRAVE NEWPARK (£1.50 per session)
ALL NEWCOMERS ARE MADE VERY WELCOME
FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT KAREN 01525 240869


Lakeside Trout & Coarse Fishery
Lakeside Farm, Wing Road, Cublington
Nr. Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 0LF
Tel: 01296 682201

Stear Farm
Boarding Kennels

 Stewkley Road, Cublington
 Nr. Leighton Buzzard, Beds
 Spacious Kennels in open countryside catering to your pets needs
 Aylesbury 688764

Your local butcher for all your farm fresh needs:



- ✓ Poultry
- ✓ Home Cooked Hams
- ✓ Sausages
- ✓ Pies
- ✓ Preserves
- ✓ Fruit & Veg
- ✓ Home Produced Beef and Lamb

Order now from the family butcher. Established since 1914
PARROTT BROS
 Butchers and Farmers, Beechmoor Farm, Cublington Road,
 Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4LG Tel: 01296 641207

Chiltern Lifestyles

Health - Fitness - Therapy

Get back into shape in 2003 with one to one Personal Training

Get Fit. Stay motivated.

Come and enjoy our private gym, take advantage of our nutritional advice and achieve your health & fitness goals.

Book your FREE consultation today

Sports Massage Therapy

For rehabilitation following an injury or to loosen up between training sessions

Body Massage

Just relax and unwind

Keep Fit Classes at Wing Village Hall

Thursday evenings - call now to book your place.

Call now for more information or to book on

01296 688664

Member of the National Register of Premier Trainers and Therapists

"It's as easy as A P C!"

Want to explore the Internet ? To learn to send emails ?

- ❖ Computer equipment to meet your needs supplied at competitive prices
- ❖ Email to keep in touch with Friends & Family
- ❖ Explore the Internet - WorldWideWeb explained - Website Design
- ❖ Personalised training and instruction in your home on an on-going basis
- ❖ Using Digital photography
- ❖ Upgrades Repairs and Network solutions for small businesses

Call Peter Arnold on 01296 681943 or

Graham Pope on 01296 688174

(or email peter@apconsulting.org.uk or
graham@apconsulting.org.uk)

A P Consulting

- solving your computing issues -

Talbot Sheepskin Products



Lambskin Coats : Flying Jackets

Moccasins : Mules (optional hard sole) : Slippers

Bootees : Hats : Handmuffs : Gloves : Mitts etc.

Childrens : Moccs : Bootees

Car Seat Covers

RUGS (singles/multiples) from £21

TALBOT SHEEPSKIN PRODUCTS

Burston Hill Farm,

Weedon Road

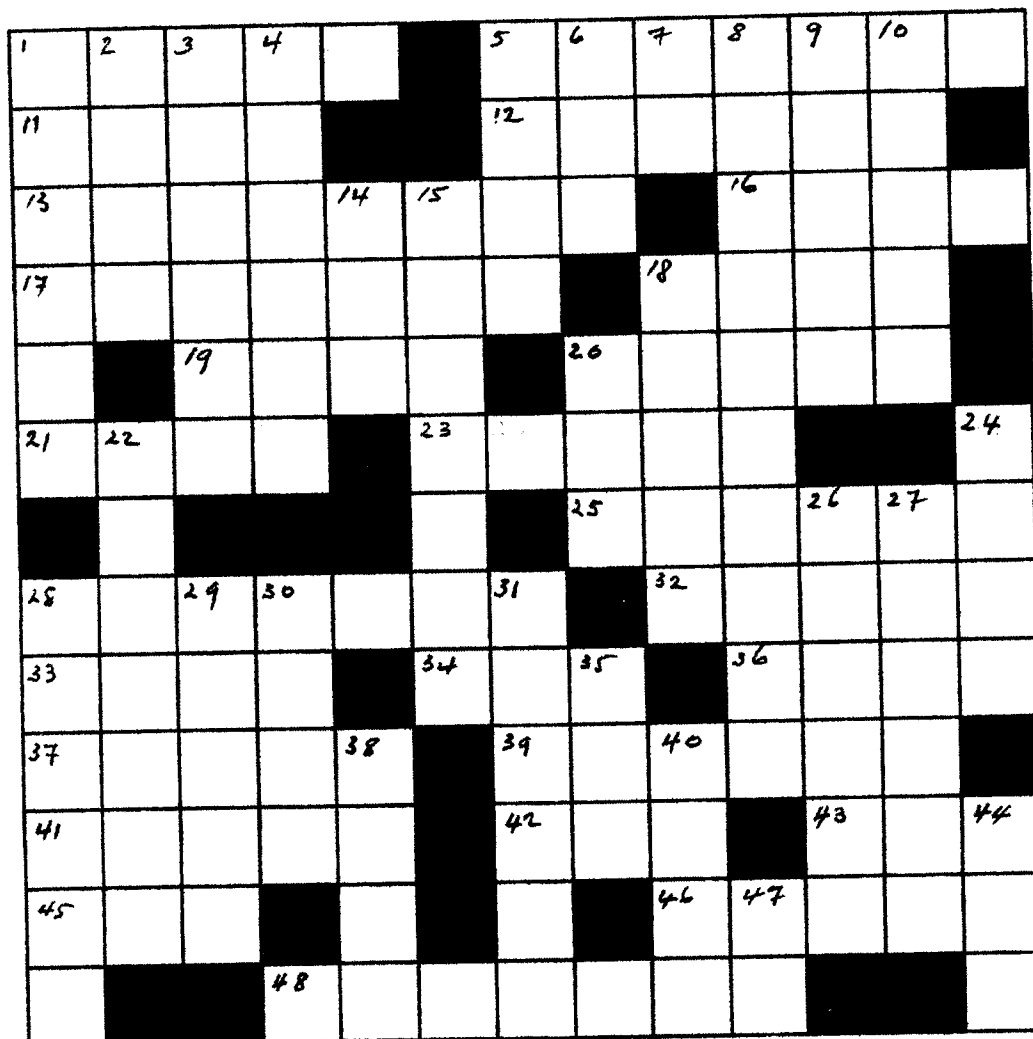
Aston Abbotts

For further information or a brochure call us on:

Aylesbury (01296) 681218

The Chronicle Crossword

January 2003



Answers to December

ACROSS:

1 Emmerdale. 10 Users. 11 Image. 13 Simply. 15 Agog. 16 Tom. 17 Shield. 19 Tyrant. 23 Rio. 24 Enough. 26 CV. 27 Astute. 28 Ike. 29 Ere. 30 Gunner. 33 Hernia. 34 Euro. 35 Plot. 36 Torment. 38 Weds. 40 ABCS. 41 Asda. 42 DC. 43 Mats. 44 Sail.

DOWN:

1 East. 2 Mummy. 3 ESP. 4 Reliant. 5 Dry. 6 As. 7 Eighth. 8 Wager. 9 Wendover. 12 Moi. 14 Iota. 15 As. 18 Lick. 20 Resented. 21 Nougats. 22 Tutu. 25 Generals. 27 Arrows. 28 Irons. 29 Eel. 31 Numb. 32 Erects. 33 HP. 37 Soil. 39 Dam. 41 AC.

ACROSS:

- 1. Beds town (5)
- 5. Alien (7)
- 11. SOUP (an 4)
- 12. Pass by, time (6)
- 13. Likened (8)
- 16. Holly (4)
- 17. LURK NED (an 7)
- 18. Top cards (4)
- 19. REEL (an 4)
- 20. Fat (5)
- 21. Levied on imports (4)
- 23. Constellation (5)
- 25. Martin----- King (6)

- 28. Pacify, appease (7)
- 32. lock of hair (5)
- 33. --- Turner (actress 4)
- 34. Make an error (3)
- 36. Gaelic (4)
- 37. Anguish (5)
- 39. Sea S. of Suez (3&3)
- 41. SIDLE (an 5)
- 42. Short month (abb 3)
- 43. Cricket run (3)
- 45. Military decoration (3)
- 46. Deep chasm (5)
- 48. Reorganize (7)

DOWN:

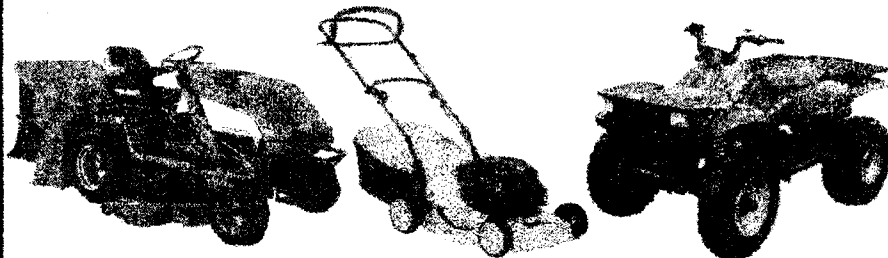
- 1. Sealed (6)
- 2. Once -- a time (4)
- 3. Uproar (6)
- 4. Bird of prey (6)
- 5. Take food (4)
- 6. Ancient (3)
- 7. Artist (2)
- 8. RENTS PIECE (an 10)
- 9. Islands (5)
- 10. Large birds (5)
- 14. Beer (3)
- 15. Redirect (7)
- 18. See 24
- 20. Lubricate (3)
- 22. Hilly country (7)
- 24 d & 18d Play the fool (4&5)
- 26. a result of (6)
- 27. Compositions (6)
- 28. Checkered cloth (6)
- 29. ALONG (an 5)
- 30. Luggage item (4)
- 31. Error in printing (6)
- 35. Agent (abb. 3)
- 38. Russian Emperor (4)
- 40. Tow, pull (4)
- 44. English river (3)
- 47. To -- or not to --(2)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

LAWNMOWERS

GARDEN MACHINERY - QUADS

SERVICE - SALES - REPAIRS
USED MACHINES AVAILABLE



COUNTAX

TIGAN

POLARIS

RGC ENGINEERS, MURSLEY

Tel: (01296) 720066 or (01296) 681007

LOCAL COLLECTION & DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE



ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



WINGRAVE GARAGE

Terry Bracey Wright & Michael Mitchell

Telephone 681543

YOUR NEW LOCAL MOT CENTRE

By Appointment 8.30am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday.
(Saturday mornings by arrangement)

PLUS all the usual services:-

Petrol Sales

Servicing and Repairs

Free Courtesy Car

We are happy to give you an estimate even for the smallest job!

St James Church

Church Services

5 th Jan	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Aston Abbotts	Morning Worship
12 th	08.00	Wingrave	Prayer Book Style Communion
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	People's Praise
19 th	10.00	Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Communion
26 th	10.00	Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion
	08.45	Cublington	Parish Communion
	10.00	Wingrave	<i>Methodist Covenant Service</i>
2 nd Feb	TBA	Aston Abbotts	Morning Service
	10.00	Wingrave	Parish Communion
	10.00	Cublington	Family Service
	10.00	Aston Abbotts	Parish Communion

Church Sidesmen

5 th	Mr. A Ford
12 th	Mr. G Kemp
19 th	Mr. J Hartnett
26 th	Mr C. Higgs
2 nd Feb	Mr. A Ford

Church Flowers

4 th /5 th	Mr C Higgs
11 th /12 th	Mrs Parker
18 th /19 th	Miss A Goodman
25 th /26 th	Mrs S Ford
1 st /2 nd Feb	Mr I Belgrove

ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

Sunday Readings

5 th Jan	Epiphany	Eph. 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12
12 th	Baptism of Christ	Acts 19.1-7; Mark 1.4-11
19 th	Epiphany 2	Rev 5.1-10; John 1.43-51
26 th	Epiphany 3	Rev 19.6-10; John 2.1-11
2 nd Feb	Candlemas	Heb 2.14-18; Luke 2.22-40

From The Registers

Funeral

27 th Nov	Joan Langdon at Wingrave
9 th Dec	Ian Bundock at Wingrave & Cublington

Church of Saint James the Great, Aston Abbotts

A big **Thank You** to all the villagers who have supported us during 2002.

Thanks to the regular and generous covenanted gifts to Church funds, the support from the village for a number of successful fund raising events including the most successful ever Open Gardens, a larger contribution from the Village Fete and a large anonymous donation we have managed to pay our full Parish Share of £4406 for this year. This is a magnificent achievement, the first time in the last few years when we have been able to do this!

Our Parish share for this coming year has yet to be decided. It will probably be increased again, but we can only once again try our best to pay it in full.

We hope that we can count on your continuing support in 2003 in order to try and achieve this goal.

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	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137
Bingo	Doris Scutchings	681243	Parish Council Leader	Tom Manning	682455
Bull and Butcher	Frank & Louise McManus	681520	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Busses	Arriva	468730 or 423445	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Chronicle Advertising	Ivan Greenaway	682605	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner	681544	Rector	Reverend Bob Willmott	681623
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Church Room Redevelopment	Tom Manning	682455	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Room Hire	Doris Scutchings	681243	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	681262
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	585858	Shop (Osborn's)	Bernard Osborn	681233
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Toddlers Group	Claire Greswell	682949
County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Wingrave School	Office	681346
Fete Coordinator	Barbara Bellingham	681689	Wingrave Stores	Andy & Helen Hall	681696
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Whist Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000			
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681685			
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343			

Please let us know of any errors or omissions

Andy and Helen Welcome You to

WINGRAVE POST OFFICE STORES

NEWSAGENT • GENERAL STORE • OFF LICENCE
 PHOTOCOPYING • VIDEO CLUB
 DRY CLEANING AGENT • CASH MACHINE



OPENING HOURS



SHOP

Monday - Saturday 6am - 7pm
 Sunday 6am - 1pm

Tel: 681696

POST OFFICE

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

Tel: 681011

DAILY VILLAGE NEWSPAPERS DELIVERED IN WINGRAVE AND ASTON ABBOTTS
 MAGAZINES ORDERED AND SAVED

CONFECTIONARY • ICE-CREAM • GREETINGS CARDS • WRAPPING PAPER

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES • FRESH BREAD & MILK DAILY

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

What's On In January

- Thurs. 9th** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30 pm
- Sat. 11th** Rambling Club Members New Year Party Gt. Brickhill 7.30 pm
also 630 Club Christmas Dinner at The Bull and Butcher, for members and partners
- Mon 13th** Workers education Association course—Significant Victorians—5 week course starts 8 pm at Wingrave School
- Tues. 14th** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm. See times in the panel below.
- Wed 15th** Parish Council Meeting Church Room 8.00 pm. Everybody is welcome.
- Thurs. 16th** Bingo (in aid of the Whitby Lifeboat) Church room 7.30 pm.
- Sunday 19th** Rambling Club members meet Marsworth 2.00 pm.
- Thurs. 23rd** Whist Drive in The Church Room 7.30 pm
- Sat 25th** Allotment rents due. Church Room 10.30 – 12 noon. Allotment plots are available, so please come along if you want one
also 630 Club Burns night at The Old Masters. Non-members welcome, but tickets strictly limited. 7.30 for 8 pm. Deposit £10 per head. Cost: not exactly sure, but probably around £20 per head. Cost covers dinner and disco. Dress code: Smart. Contact John Whyte on 681685.
- Sunday 26th** Village footpath walk. Meet on The Green 2.00 pm.
- Tues. 28th** Mobile Library The Green / Wingrave Rd / Oxley Farm. See times in the panel below.
also Floral Class Church Room 7.00 pm.
- Fri 31st** PCC Quiz Evening, Church Room 7.30 pm. Tickets £3.00 and include refreshments. Available from Colin (681343) or Shirley (681885)

BOOK THESE DATES

Festival Weekend

Sat/Sun/ 26th/ 27th
July

Quiz Night

We shall be holding the popular quiz evening in January on Friday 31st, so book early, and DO come along and join in.

ALLOTMENTS

Plots are now available.
If you would like one, apply on the 25th Jan at The Church Room 10.30—12 noon

BUCKINGHAM MOBILE

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

Classified

CHARACTER HOUSE FOR RENT IN ASTON ABBOTTS

53 The Green. Originally a chapel, now two houses. Lovely location. Three bedrooms and toilet/shower-room upstairs. Two rooms downstairs, one with working fireplace. Kitchen fitted. Downstairs toilet in storage conservatory.

Tel Avi or Poonam on 01296 682204

BURNS NIGHT—See What's On

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

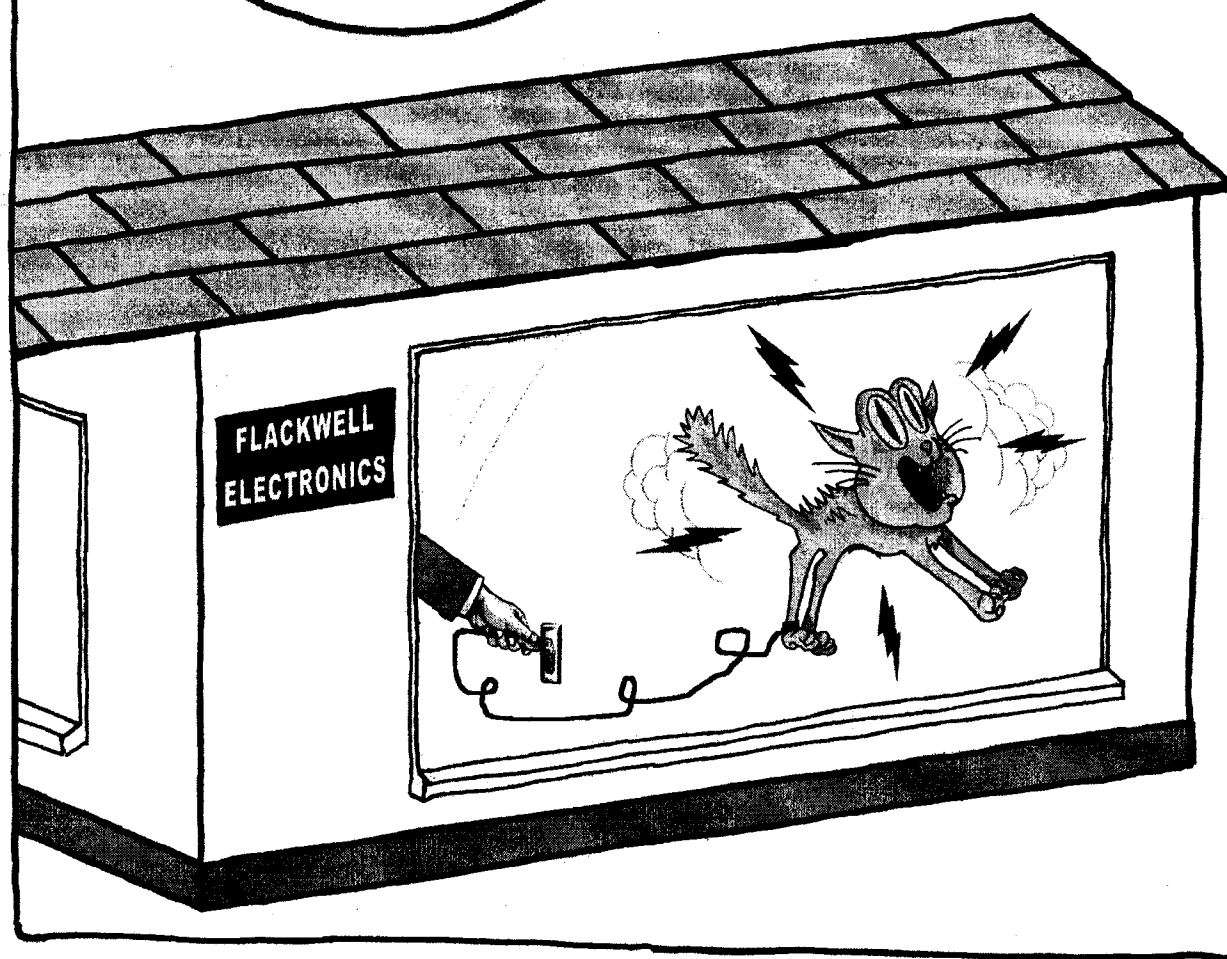
The Aston Abbots Toddler Group meet every Thursday morning between 10 and 12 in The Church Room. Contact Claire Greswell on 682949 for more information



FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS Tel: 01296 682126

Kirsty! Kirsty!
I haven't seen
your cat since it
pee-ed all over
Dave in bed this
morning!



We wish to assure readers that no actual animal was harmed during the making of this advertisement