

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 229 ~ December 2003



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Editorial

A Bad Start

2003 started badly. We lost the Bull and Butcher and the Old Masters in the first quarter of the year.

In the first issue of the year we also reported that the Church room redevelopment had got stuck in a legal wrangle. Twelve months later and, as far as I am aware, nothing much has changed. It seems to me that many people are losing either losing heart or losing interest. It would be an exaggeration to say that the parade has passed by, but the sound of the drums seems to be diminishing somewhat.

It is sad that a sociable village like Aston Abbots should be deprived of a "function room". We are very lucky that we still have the Royal Oak—there are so many villages which no longer have their own pub. Teri and Gary are very supportive of events that villagers wish to put on, but we still need a single large room somewhere in the village for concerts and parties. This year, for the first time, the 630 Club St George's dinner was held outside of the village so that we could sit everybody together. A real shame. The "powers that be" have seen fit to grant permission for some eighteen new dwellings in Aston Abbots over the last 12-15 months. That's a ten percent increase. We need a function room for the larger village so let's hope the village hall redevelopment gets a kick start real soon.

However, these difficulties have not deterred Astonians from enjoying themselves and there have been some notable events. The fete and Astonbury were enormous successes, between them raising over £6000 for village causes. The "fall-out" from Astonbury still continues and you can read Shirley's account of her "Perfect Day" on page 13.

The Royal Oak put on a hugely successful fun day back in the late spring. Over £2000 was raised for cancer charities and you can read the response from one of them on page 21. In November the pub raised even more money for charity with race night. More money, this time for the Church Room, was raised by Avi and Poonam's Diwali celebration in November (report on page 11).

Throughout the year there were other events and parties. New groups have sprung into being—the Gnomes and the Friends Of St James. So as we now look forward to a new year we can feel confident that the social life in Aston Abbots will survive the losses of the first part of last year.

All that remains is for me to wish a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our readers our contributors and our advertisers. Have a great Christmas. See you in 2004.

Phil

Email the Chronicle at
editor@achronicle.co.uk

In This Issue

In your Christmas Chronicle ~

- *This Year's Fireworks*
- *Diwali Celebrations*
- *A Perfect Day*
- *John Supersonic Whyte*
- *Whale Watching*
- *Do You Believe In Santa Claus?*

and much, much more.....

THE CHRONICLE
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~o~

A note to all would be advertisers -

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~o~

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 2nd January 2004

Please pass items to Phil Spooner at The Birches in Wingrave Road or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible.

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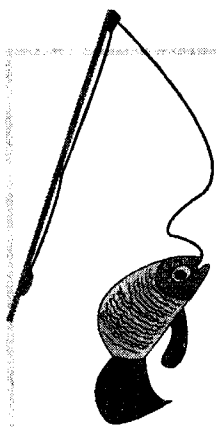
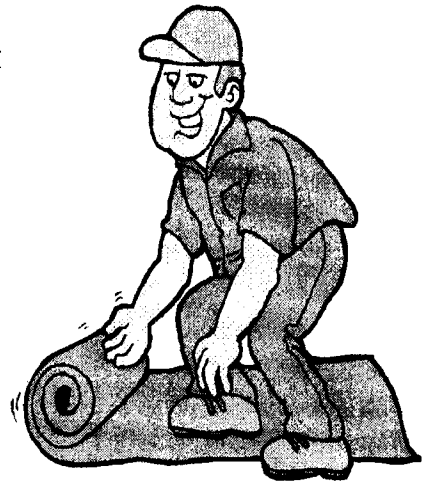
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In The Village

Village Fireworks

Perhaps it was the influence of 'The Festival of Light' (Diwali) celebrations back in mid October (see page 11), but thanks to Dolly Hind's generosity, there was a welcoming pool of light at the entrance of the playing field. Of course, the Friends Of St James played no small part in arranging this and additionally provided suitable sustenance for a cold night; burgers for the 'starving', hot spuds to warm chilled hands, soup for inner warmth and thanks to Janet Biddle, hot mulled wine to fortify the 'more nervous'! All this served to imbue this year's event with an almost party like atmosphere.

The Friends Of St James did a marvellous job, since their efforts raised a very creditable £120.00 + which is to go to the Church 'Support' Fund.

Nov. 5th is a golden opportunity to scour sheds and gardens for any (not obviously toxic) rubbish which will burn. However, preparations don't end with building the bonfire. Indeed, I am reliably informed that thatched roofs are hosed and insurance's 'double checked', cats locked indoors with their favourite CD playing to deaden the sound of fireworks, vallium added to dog food, and Alpacas and horses stabled. All this needs to be carried out with time to spare since there seems to be a need for 'some' to 'practice' letting fireworks off at least a week before the event! Perhaps this won't be the case next year since that 'nice Mr Blair' seems to have 'a cunning plan' in mind!!

Weather conditions were good on the night, the fire lit without the often necessary 'tanker' of diesel fuel. Our usual team of 'pyromaniacs' lead by Lol were on hand to give us an exhilarating, mercifully safe and (though loud) colourful display. A great night all round.

Very many thanks to all who contributed to this spectacular event, whether by providing fireworks, organising the food or giving us a great, safe bonfire and firework display.



Retiring After 25 Years !!!!!!!!!

Shirley Ford is retiring from cleaning St James Church after twenty-five years!

But how do we go about replacing her splendid effort? One suggestion has been to create a rota of volunteers, in this way we can reduce the number of times one person has to clean or two people sharing will halve the task!

So come on all you gals, and the guys too, it's no more than an hour a week, would you be willing to put your name on a church cleaning rota so we can give Shirley a happy retirement?

If you're willing to help or need to know more before committing yourself - give Ann a ring on 681763 or email her at ann@magnificat.f9.uk

~ Gordon Kemp



Friends of St. James

Wow! we were quite overcome by the incredibly generous response to our request for items to sell on our stall on Aylesbury Market on November 1st. Will all the wonderful people who gave such lovely gifts, made cakes and jam, and offered to help man the stall please give themselves a pat on the back and consider themselves thanked personally and profusely. We had so much to sell that we were still well stocked by the time came to pack up, in spite of having sold about two thirds of our stock and having taken a very satisfactory £321.

We hope those of you who munched your way through 81 hot dogs and 50 odd baked potatoes, and slurped your way through several pints of Anne Dickens' leek and potato soup, not to mention Janet Biddle's mulled wine, felt that our food stall added to the enjoyment of the evening on Bonfire Night. Your appetites added another £163 to our funds. Thank you for your support and a special thank you to Mrs. Hinds who so kindly let us use her electricity supply for lighting.

It has been a successful year so far but we still have another £300 to raise to pay off the debt for the rewiring of the Church. We will therefore be holding a Christmas Bazaar in the Church Room, which will include a large selection of china, glass and bric-a-brac, from 10.00 till noon on Saturday 13th December. Do come and join us for coffee and biscuits and a chance to fill some of the gaps in the Christmas shopping list.

~ Clare Shorrocks

Royal Oak Race Night

Around £386 was raised for children's charities by the Royal Oak Race Night, held in mid-November.

The pub was packed with hopeful punters and a compere and tote was laid on.

Everybody had a great time, except for Tone who (perhaps for the first time ever) didn't have a single winner.

Well done to everybody at the Oak for putting on a great event.

~ Phil Spooner

Poo

Someone has contacted The Chronicle to say that they have seen dog owners just walk away when their dog has pooped in the Recreation Ground. That's not fair, because it is a public place used by children. We are dog owners ourselves, but we don't like walking in dog mess. There is a bin by the gate to take dog mess, so please clear up after your pooch. Thank you.



~ Phil Spooner



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Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir,

When the Bull and Butcher closed we agreed to re-site the glass and newspaper recycling bins in the car park of the Royal Oak. We did this in order for the village to continue to avail themselves of this facility without having to travel several miles to the nearest recycling site.

Imagine our surprise therefore, when on Thursday 6th November we discovered that a green cast iron wood-burning stove, which was behind the bins, went missing! This was visible only to anybody who was using the glass bin and therefore we have come to the conclusion that the stove was taken by somebody emptying their glass and on the assumption that the stove was being thrown away. This was not the case.

We would therefore appeal to the person who mistakenly took the stove to return it to the place from where it was taken.

Many thanks for your help.

~ Teri and Gary

Dear Sir,

I wonder if it would be possible to publish an article in The Chronicle asking if anyone has recently become aware of a persistent humming sound. I am suffering such a problem. The hum first became apparent on 9th October 2003. It is very low volume and only really becomes apparent at night when the ambient noise level is low. It seems to be more apparent inside my house than outside, although it is still audible outside and as far away from my house as "The Bull". I have tried shutting down every appliance in my house, including electricity at the mains, central heating and even the mains water - but the hum is still the same.

I have contacted the Council and Anglia water, thinking perhaps it had been mentioned by someone else or perhaps work was being done on the sewer - all to no avail. I have also ascertained from the site foreman that no electric motors/pumps are running at "The Bull" building site.

It's not my ears as other people can hear it too. This persistent humming is continuous and very annoying when trying to sleep.

I am at a total loss and would appreciate any input from other residents of the village who may also be aware of this noise.

~ Tony Cummings, 7 Ross Road

Spooky! Is Aston Abbots being invaded by beings from another planet? I've not seen any little green men myself, although I have noticed several strange beings attempting to turn a much loved village pub into a suburban housing estate—surely that's proof of bizarre alien activity right here on earth. The truth is out there. Seriously though, if you can throw any light on this problem I'm sure Tony would be very pleased to hear from you. ~ Ed

**A Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
to all of our readers**

Aston Abbots & Cublington Ladies Club

23rd October

There were seventeen members present at today's meeting held in the Church Room. The Chairman, Joan Alexander welcomed our members and our guest speaker Claire Shorrock. A short business meeting was held to discuss and finalise when future meetings would be held and the minutes read and approved.

Claire Shorrock began her talk and demonstration on quilting. She showed us many examples of her work and talked about patterns, design, materials and stitching. Claire was thanked by April Curnow. Tea hostesses were Robin Anson Owen and Doreen Powis and the raffle prize was won by Marry Morris.

6th November

Seventeen members were present in the Church Room for the Club's AGM. The meeting began with the minutes of our last AGM. Being read and this was followed by the Chairman's, Treasurer's, Secretary's and Social Secretary's reports.

Ideas for future meetings were discussed. This was followed by a vote being taken, resulting in existing Officers being returned for the following term en bloc.

We then enjoyed tea and cakes provided by Joan Alexander and Robin Anson Owen. The raffle prize was won by Ivy Brandon.

20th November

Seventeen members were present at today's ladies Club meeting. Chairman Joan Alexander welcomed members. The minutes were read and signed. Our chairman explained that our next meeting, planned for 4th December is an 'entertain ourselves' meeting, with poems, stories, and anecdotes.

Business over, the chairman welcomed Liz Barlow who gave us a slide show and talk about a holiday in Borneo. The slides were beautiful and her talk was most interesting and entertaining. Kim White thanked Liz on behalf of the club.

Tea hostesses of the meeting were all Bruce Stevenson and Bath will Bradley Davies. The raffle was won by Jean Biss.

~ Shirley Ford



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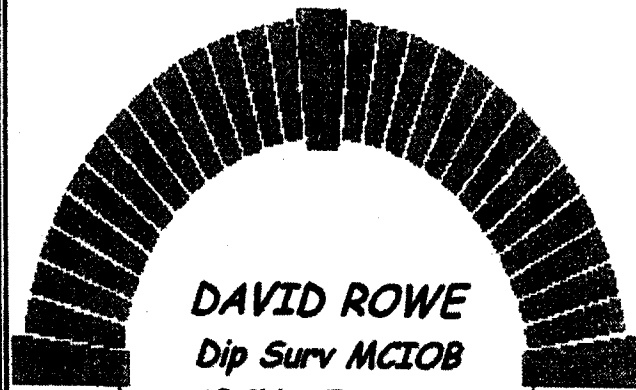
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Countryside Diary

10th November

A time of year with dramatic changes. It can be warm, even hot and sunny around lunchtime and then cold with the frost at night.

Thursday the 6th was a beautiful day with several red admiral butterflies flying and feeding on some Marigold flowers at the Abbey. It's amazing to think that these delicate insects can hide away and survive the winter to produce more butterflies next summer.

The odd mole has survived the 'Great Drought' and again fresh mole heaps are appearing, showing that they are busy again.

What an autumn for colours. Do the trees just look better because there has been more sun shining through the leaves or are the colours really that bit sharper than last year? Whatever - it has been lovely with, in particular, the field maple leading the colours. Also noticeable, the vast number of Ash keys - sheep love them and Hoover them up as they fall.

The flocks of birds are more apparent now, as well as the usual redwings and fieldfares the wood pigeons and starlings are getting into bigger and bigger flocks and using the bits of wood around the village as communal nesting sites.

Rabbits have surprised me recently. There seem to be relatively few about and those that are showing themselves look very fit and healthy. I haven't noticed much myxomatosis about this autumn, but something seems to have cut the numbers down a bit.

There is one pest that seems to survive most things that are thrown at it - a real monster despite its size - White Fly. This flying dandruff has had a wonderful summer and has infested all the Brussels and purple sprouting plants at the Abbey. From there it moved on to the lettuce that are planted to stand the winter. I assumed that the first frost would take care of the problems, but it certainly hasn't and this week of 5th November white fly were about still in great numbers. Can we

ever win?

This problem does draw attention to what a wonderful vegetable is spinach. It always seems to look wonderfully well, has no pests or diseases and, if sown in August September as well as spring, can be picked and enjoyed every week of the year. What's more, it's good for you!



The grass has greened up just a shade but, of course, there is very little growth now it's November. Most of the sheep have hay on offer so winter stores are being depleted. A friend of ours has been feeding his cattle on celery - yes celery - huge amounts of celery tops are usually wasted in East Anglia and at best are ploughed in after the field has been harvested. It's good to see a waste product being put to good use. Shall we put salt out for the cattle who love celery?

Pete Knight

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Diwali In Aston Abbotts

Diwali, meaning 'a row of lamps', is one of the most celebrated festivities in the Indian culture, uniting all members of the community, young and old, rich or poor. The lighting of the lamps represents a way of paying obeisance to God for the attainment of health, wealth, knowledge, and peace. People give expression to their happiness by lighting earthen diyas and decorating the houses to welcome Lakshmi- the Goddess of wealth and prosperity. Friends and family are invited to partake in luxurious feasts and fire crackers are set off. It marks the beginning of the Hindu New Year and a brand new beginning for all.


Diwali is traditionally celebrated for five days in October, each day having it's own significance.

And so it was in Aston Abbotts Sat.18th when Avi and Poonam Gupta invited friends and family to celebrate this festival in the Church Room. It was all there! Lamps and candles wherever there was a few square inches of horizontal space. The walls had been decorated with brightly coloured 'silks' and shiny trinkets, a 'Bollywood' film was showing on a big screen and (as we've come to expect from Poonam) a wonderful spread of Indian food had been provided. Even our now rather tired hall looked extremely glamorous on this occasion.

Festivities commenced with some 'very serious' gambling; any winnings being 'taxed' at 100% and this being donated to the Church Room Fund. A short break to take advantage of all that

wonderful food, then outside for a pretty impressive firework display on the grass in front of the hall. The sudden appearance of a Police patrol car might well have dampened down the celebrations at this stage. However, the quick thinking of a certain 'young lady' ensured the policeman was 'distracted' until the pyrotechnics were over. (Well done Bridget!).

Once back inside we were issued with 'sticks' and instructed on the intricacies of Indian dance; a sort of cross between Morris and Country & Western dancing but to Indian music. In actual fact it seemed to be an excuse to 'act the goat' and/or inflict serious GBH but was tremendous fun.

Very many thanks to Avi, Poonam, for introducing us to this little bit of Indian tradition and to you both and all who helped make this a wonderful occasion. Perhaps next year we could go for the full five-day 'jobbie'!!! 

Around three hundred pounds was raised for the Church room Fund by the Diwali party, a not insignificant part of it from your editors gambling losses! Our grateful thanks to Avi, Poonam, their family, and their friends for the hard work they put into decorating the Church Room, preparing the food, and ensuring that everybody had a great time.

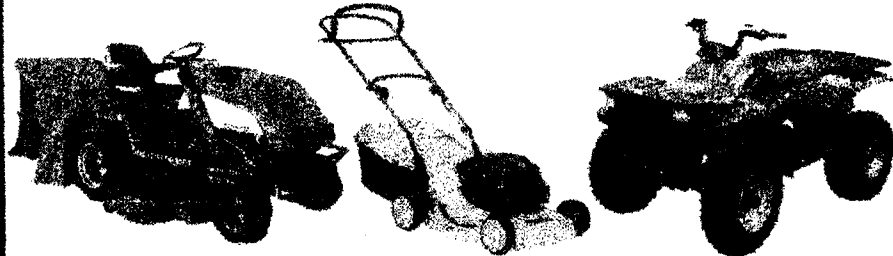
In the picture below Diwali party host Poonam Gupta is flanked by Anita Parker, Richard Clarke and the Chronicle's Countryside columnist Peter Knight. ~ Ed



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A Perfect Day

What a perfect day was probably the last song I actually remember from Astonbury. Then upon waking the morning after, the realisation of how much I (with the help of Caz) had spent on a flight to who knows where?

Seeing Dave in the Oak, we arranged the day we could go flying. He came and picked us, my daughter Nikita, Caz, and myself, up at 9.30 on Thursday 28th August.

He told us we could fly to the Isle of Wight, have some lunch, and fly back. Well!!! (Shirley had taken an option of paying for increased flying time.) Nikita was well excited, as I hadn't told her until that morning what we would be doing.

We arrived at Booker. The skies were a little overcast, but we still hoped we could go ahead. Dave sorted out paperwork, plane, etc, while we sat and anticipated what it was going to be like. Nikita, on seeing the plane, which was a Piper Cherokee, said to me, "Mummy! I thought it was going to be a huge plane with only the four of us on it", but it didn't put her off. Caz just looked at me and said "Um - they really are quite small aren't they?".

Dave gave us the headphones and we walked across to the plane. Caz and Keta sat in the back. Dave told me "You are going to take off and fly it". "Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!" I thought. We all settled down, Dave did all the checks, and then took us down to the runway and we were ready to take off. I took hold of the "joystick" and he revved the engine and started down the runway. I really thought he was joking about, but he wasn't! The palms of my hands started to go really soggy, but he told me exactly what to do and as we went faster and faster I gently eased the joystick towards me. Next thing, we were actually in the air! Me flying! It was so exhilarating. I still can't quite believe that I did it. Caz and Keta were brilliant, saying "You're doing fine" and "What is it like?". How can you describe it? All that air between you and the earth. Even though I knew Dave was sat next to me and if I had done anything wrong he would correct it, it still felt like "Yes! I am in control of this little plane!" I even kept it on course.

As we approached the Isle of Wight I kept thinking Dave would take over now as there is no way he's going to let me land it as well. Wrong again! He told me how to approach the airport, which was a strip of grass I could just about see. I had to fly parallel to it and then bank around it to the left, soggy hands yet again, but I did it! The strip of grass was getting nearer and nearer. As we descended, I had to keep the nose slightly up. Obvious really, or else we would have nose-



dived, but not so obvious when you've never done it before. Suddenly we were coming into land and you realised exactly how fast you were going, but I did it - and the adrenalin was pumping. Not even a bump. When we actually stopped I felt like I had had it. I can't really remember getting out of the plane.

Keta and Caz loved it. We sat and had coffee while Dave sorted out and more paperwork, then a taxi took us into Shanklin. The heavens opened, but we had a nice lunch at the Fishermen's Inn, which was right on the coast. The surf was up and there were a few brave people swimming and surfing. We then walked quite a long way, had an ice-cream, and walked along the pier. The weather was getting worse and Dave told us we should get back to the plane. Caz was going to fly us back, which was great. It would be the first time she had actually taken me anywhere, but did I trust her? I knew what her attempts at driving were like!

It started with a perfect day, but only in song. It definitely ended a perfect day.

Thanks Dave.

~ Shirley Hanlon

Luton Airport Will Not Take NO For An Answer

In 2000, The Directorate of Airspace Policy (part of the CAA) refused to endorse Luton Airport's proposed new flightpath over Leighton Buzzard that became known as Option 4. In December 2002 Luton's alternative proposal, Option 3 over Vale villages, including Aston Abbots, was proved by PAVAN (Protect Aylesbury Vale Against Noise) and others to be unworkable.

But Luton Airport is so desperate to expand, improve the operators' share price and increase executive bonuses, they refuse to accept that other airspace users also have rights and that people on the ground want to preserve their tranquil surroundings, or at least not see an increase in noise. PAVAN has learned that Luton is planning to re-launch the consultation process early in 2004 in the form of Option 3a, a combination of Options 3 and 4 which would mean more planes more often and at lower altitudes - i.e. a significant increase in noise - over Aston Abbots.

Does Luton really need a new flightpath? Luton can still not prove that it needs the new airspace and flightpath for any reason other than for future expansion - it is lobbying aggressively to be included in the Government's White Paper on the Future of Aviation (due out in December 2003). But the DAP is clear that future expansion alone is not a valid reason for a new flightpath. Other factors such as safety and the environment need to be considered.

Is there an alternative? Without the airspace and flightpath, Luton will remain a small airport. But is that such a bad thing? The south east needs an alternative to the monstrosity that is Heathrow, the long drive (for many) that is Gatwick and the growth already planned at Stansted. The south east needs a small, sustainable, local airport to cater for those who enjoy a short, comfortable, aviation experience - passengers and airlines alike.

(Continued on page 19)

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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 22nd October 2003

Present: Cllrs. T.Manning (Chairman), C. Higgs, R.Clarke, D. Dicken, M. Kent, P. Shorrocks and Mrs. K.Curry (Clerk). One member of the public was present. Apologies were received from Cllr J.Farrands and County Cllr. B. Jennings

Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Matters Arising From The Minutes Not On The Agenda

It was felt that planning applications would be dealt with better if they were discussed by a planning committee prior to the Parish Council meeting. Cllrs Dicken, Shorrocks and Higgs agreed to pilot the scheme.

County Council, District Council And Police Matters

No representatives were present from the Police or County Council.

District Councillor Peter Cooper said it was a pity no one was present from the police. The police response to the vandalism of a number of cars in Aston Abbotts and Wingrave on Saturday 18th October had been very poor.

Peter Cooper also gave a report on the South Midlands and Milton Keynes Study – this includes the Deputy Prime Minister's aspirations for further housing in our area, with plans up to 2016 and 2031. Aylesbury has been designated an 'Economic Hub', meaning that development will be concentrated on this area. The view of AVDC is that the Infrastructure must be put in place before any development is allowed to happen.

Use of land at Badger's Oak Farm as an illegal tip. An enforcement notice is being served to remove the waste.

Planning

03/02407/APP – 69, The Green, Aston Abbotts. Conservatory. Resolved to oppose this application on the grounds that it is too large for the size of the existing house.

03/02527/ APP – Home Farm, 61, The Green, Aston Abbotts. Erection of three dwellings with detached garages. Resolved to make no comment on this application.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Q. What nationality is Santa Claus?

A. North Polish.

Q. What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A. Frostbite.

Q. If Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus had a child, what would he be called?

A. A subordinate Claus.

Q. What do you call a cat on the beach at Christmas time?

A. Sandy Claus!

The 3 stages of man:

1. He believes in Santa Claus.
2. He doesn't believe in Santa Claus.
3. He is Santa Claus.

Highways

To discuss whether to implement traffic calming measures in the village in the form of 'roundels' and / or 'dragon's teeth'. Resolved to apply to have 'roundels' painted on the road at the 30 mph signs on all three approaches to the village.

Preliminary discussion on the proposal to request a pedestrian footpath between Home Farm and Church Farm. It was thought that the road is already very narrow at this point, that cars currently parked there would have nowhere else to go, and that adequate pavement already exists on the opposite side of the road. Resolved not to support this request.

Royal Mail Post Box. It was reported that the post box seems to get full very quickly. Resolved to write to the Royal Mail requesting either a larger box or a second one elsewhere in the village.

Recreation Ground

Safety check – children's play area: up to date.

Skateboard Ramp – The skateboard ramp is now at the Recreation Ground, but needs siting and erecting. An advert has been placed in The Chronicle for volunteers to help with this task.

Date Of Next Meeting

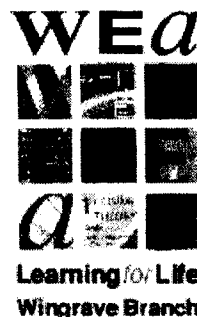
Confirmed that the next Meeting of Aston Abbotts Parish Council will be on Wednesday 3rd December 2003 at 8 pm in the Church Room.

Everyone is welcome to come along.

~ Kate Curry, Parish Clerk

Interpreting Landscapes: Rocks, Minerals and Fossils with Mike Henty

A 10 weeks course on Mondays
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John Whyte Goes Supersonic

I'd been in Jamaica for a week working and come back to the hotel to a mystery. Two missed calls, no caller ID, and no message. Checked at home. They hadn't rung me - no surprise really, as they hadn't called all week. I'd had trouble charging the phone, that's why I had left it behind - to try and get some extra power into it.

Waited till the following morning and checked at the office. "Where have you been?" said one very disgruntled secretary, "I tried yesterday morning and again in the afternoon." Oops! Obviously some big emergency. I waited to hear what had happened. "B A rang to see if you want a flight on Concorde during its last week and they need to know a urgently if you want to go". Now this was an emergency, but of a different kind.

Move forward to Monday 20th October - Birmingham airport. I know the airport reasonably well, my mother lives near by, but I'd never seen it this busy. Apparently 10,000 spectators came to see Concorde off on its last flight from that airport.

A few glasses of champagne later and the happy band of travellers heading for Concorde were called to the coach. Concorde was parked at the General

Aviation Terminal, opposite the passenger terminal. To get there we had to go round the perimeter track and pass in front of the overflow car-parks. According to BA there were 5000 in this car park. The driver slowed to a crawl, the crowd waved, we waved back. It felt like a moonshot, with us playing the part of the astronauts.

Being piped on board the plane was a surprise, but, given my heritage, a pleasant one. A few minutes later we were away. BA had a spare a pilot on board to give us a running commentary throughout the flight. The flight path was heading Bristol, past the south of Ireland, out over the Atlantic, and back via the Channel Isles.

As they serve the salmon and champagne we hit Mach 1, the speed of sound, and about 10 minutes later we hit Mach 2 and 60,000 feet. Looking out of the window you could see blue sky around you but, if you looked up, the sky was black. There were a few clouds around but not enough to stop us seeing the curvature of the earth.

The flight was two hours in total. and I know this is a terrible pun, but it just flew by. We landed at Heathrow about 6 pm. As we taxied to the terminal I could see my office window.

Having seen Concorde take-off virtually every day for two years it was a fantastic experience to see it from the inside. I consider myself very lucky to have had the chance to fly on his brilliant aircraft during its final week of service and the memory will stay with me for ever.

Boy, am I glad I followed up that missed telephone call!

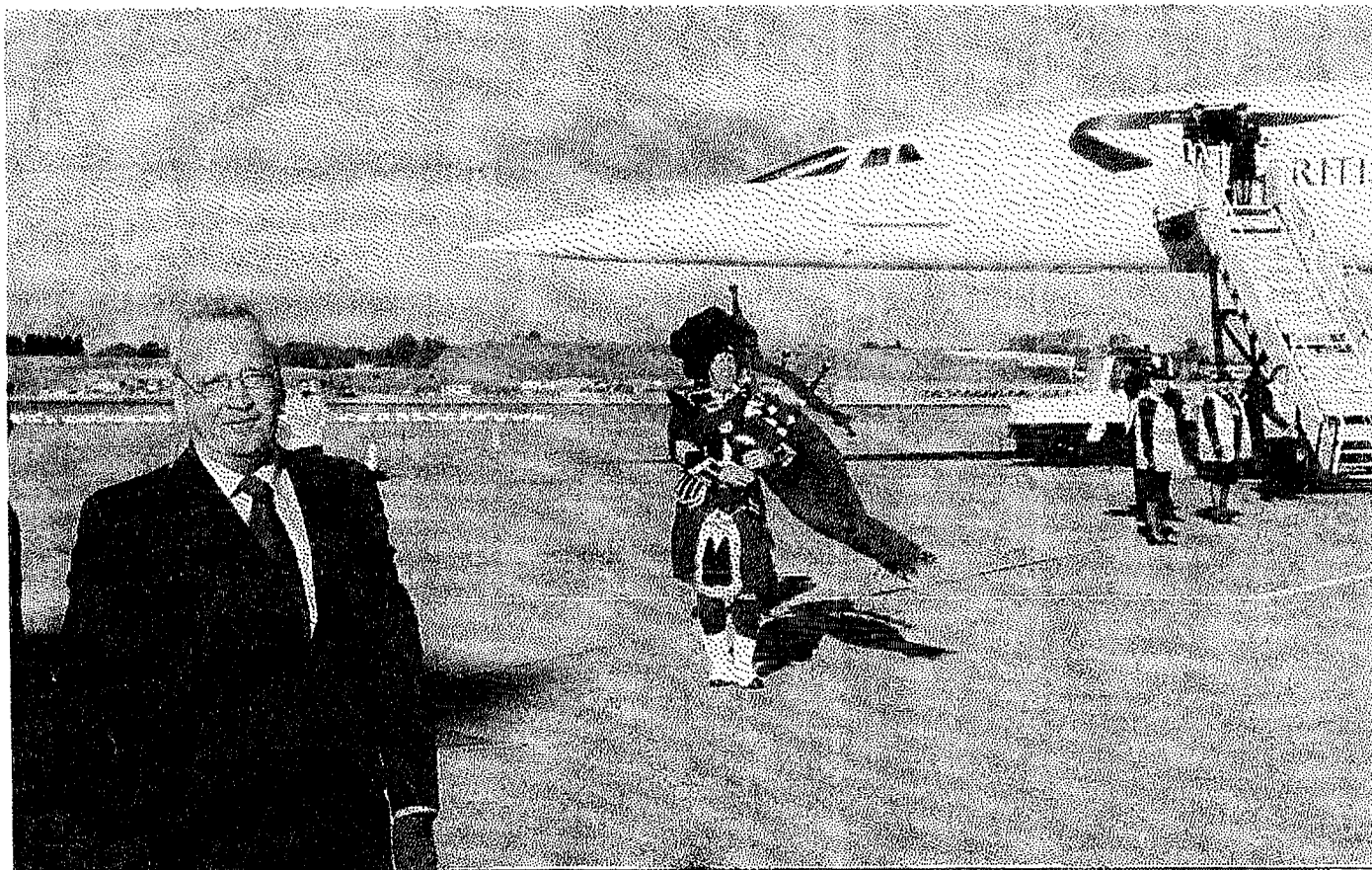
~ John Whyte

Just a few days later Concorde made its last ever passenger flight. On the final day several villagers, including myself, travelled down to Heathrow to see the last three planes land.

John had kindly offered us a grandstand view from the roof of his office, which overlooks the runway. We saw the last Concorde take off and then, a couple of hours later, three Concordes landed one after another. With this, the era of supersonic passenger flight came to an end.

Our thanks to John for his article and for giving a few of us a grand view of the final flights ~ Ed

In the picture below the piper plays as John waits to board his Concorde for a special flight on a trip that can never be made again.



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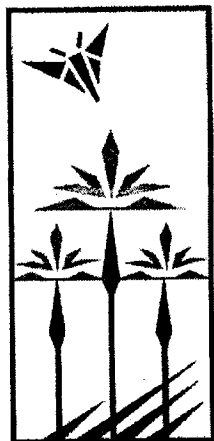
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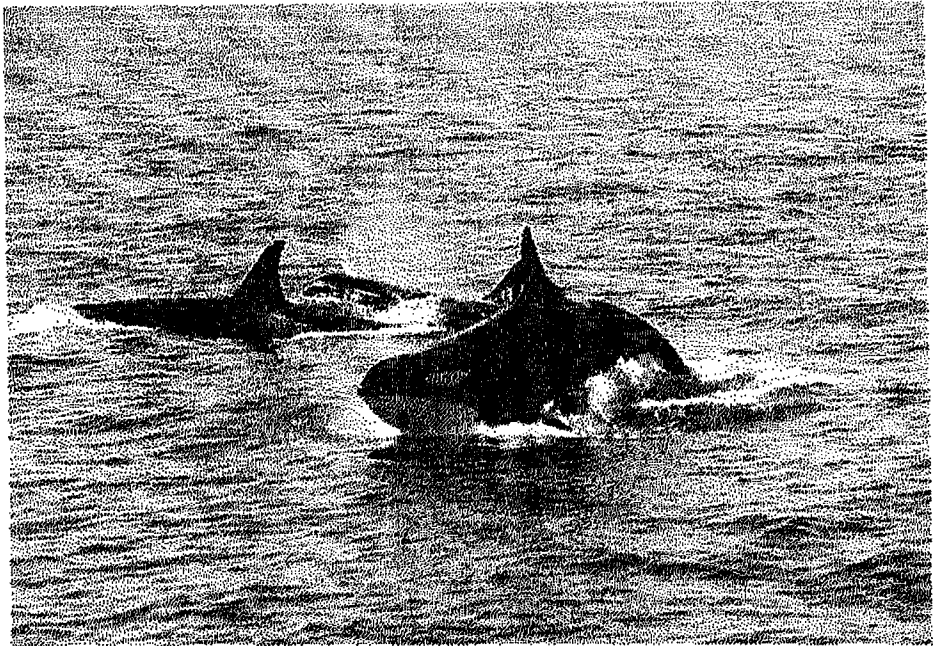
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Whale Watching from Vancouver Island

On our recent trip to Alaska and Canada we were somewhat disappointed to have spotted few whales on our Alaskan Cruise. The guide-books were full of details about whale watching from the capital of Vancouver Island (Victoria) and our guide was very positive about it too. So I overcame my natural scepticism and agreed to go. So on a glorious September morning we stepped aboard our small boat and set out in search of whales.

While heading out of the harbour some of us sat in the lower part of the boat and one of the 2 on-board naturalists told us about the whales that are resident in the local waters. In fact they are not strictly whales at all but a type of dolphin called Orcas that live in small family groups called Pods. On our earlier visit to the aquarium in Vancouver, we had discovered that each of these pods are led by the oldest female and that they communicate with a series of high pitched noises which is unique to that particular group. The Orcas around Vancouver Island have been extensively studied and recorded and the boat had books full of pictures of the various individuals and which pods they belonged to. Individual Orcas can be identified by the white or grey mark below their dorsal fin and also the size and shape of the fin itself. Male and female fins being a different shape. The naturalists on board were later able to identify and name many of the Orcas that we encountered including the largest male appropriately called MEGA. We also learnt that these resident pods only eat fish and are so familiar with the whale watching boats that they will approach them if they feel like it. The life cycle of the Orcas is similar to our own, mothers look after their calves for several years and they reach sexual maturity in their teens. They can live many years the oldest female is thought to be 92 years old.



The term Killer Whale that is often given to Orcas comes from the fact that there is a sub species of Orcas that are identical genetically but behave in a quite different way. They are not resident in one area and hunt and kill mammals such as seals. Many of you will remember David Attenborough's amazing film about these animals hunting and appearing to play with seals. These also pass through these waters but are much more difficult to find. Twice a year grey and hump back whales pass through these waters as they migrate from California to the Arctic and back again.

After about half an hour we spotted our first Orca the boat slowed and suddenly a group was heading towards us. We could clearly hear them communicating with each other as they passed the boat and, on one occasion, went under it. We were able to see them pretty well and see their different markings. When they had passed we moved on and soon encountered another group. They proved very difficult to photograph because you had to try to guess when they would surface. Nigel managed however to get

one good photo of a group of 6 Orcas close together. Unfortunately he only managed to capture the enormous splash created by one "breaching" or jumping out of the water only a few feet from the back of our boat. In all I think we saw 4 groups of Orcas in a fairly small area. It seems that we had been lucky enough to witness a "Super Pod", this is a kind of Orca party where the resident pods seem to congregate possibly to allow males to mate with females from other groups. They certainly seemed to be in party mood and at one point 2 paused within view of the boat and appeared to be playing, surfacing vertically head first and holding themselves out of the water apparently having a good look round.

We returned to Victoria a very happy group and full of admiration for wild life film makers and camera-men. We had been very lucky but it clearly takes time, luck, local knowledge and endless patience to capture a good picture let alone film the types of behaviour we routinely see on our TV screens.

~ Sally Palmer

(Continued from page 13)

Can I do anything to help? One reason why PAVAN and other groups were so successful in stalling Option 3 was the weight of public opinion behind them. If you would like to add your voice to those who object to excessive airport expansion, then register with PAVAN today by calling 01525 240950 or e-mailing webbrchl@aol.com. It would also be useful to write to your Parish Council NOW to let them know how you feel so that they can plan their own response to the proposals.

If you are already on PAVAN's mailing list, then show this newsletter to friends and neighbours and encourage them to

register.

In addition, if flights to and from Luton are disturbing you, then email noise@london-luton.co.uk, or call 01582 395382 and let them know you do not like it. Details of the day and time and direction of flights should be included with your complaints.

Rachel Webb

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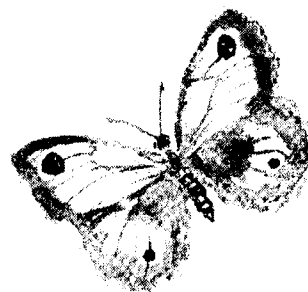
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Royal Oak Fun Day Cancer Donation

Many of you will remember the great Royal Oak fun day earlier this year. The money raised was given to the Ian Rennie Hospice and to Cancer Research. The Royal Oak received this letter from Ian Rennie. Well done to everybody at the Oak—and to everybody who went and had a great time.



Miss K Moulton
The Royal Oak Inn
Wingrave Road
ASTON ABBOTTS
Bucks

**THE
IAN RENNIE
HOSPICE
AT
HOME**

06 June 2003

Dear Miss Moulton

It was really kind of you to call into the office with cash totalling £1,100 following your recent fundraising activities. You obviously had a great time raising such a substantial sum and you certainly deserve to feel good about your achievements - you obviously put in a great deal of time and energy, not to mention sheer hard work! Everyone at Iain Rennie joins me in sending you and everyone at The Royal Oak our sincere thanks and good wishes.

We are really grateful to you for choosing to support the Iain Rennie Hospice At Home. You can be sure that the money will be spent wisely and will enable local people to have the opportunity to be nursed at home during the final stages of a terminal illness. As we rely so heavily on fundraising and donations, the generosity of people like yourselves enables us to care for an increased number of patients each year - 750 in the last 12 months.

Finally, I would like to apologise for the short delay in writing to you.

Yours sincerely

ROBERT BREAKWELL
Appeals Director
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Do You Believe In Santa Claus—The Evidence

No known species of reindeer can fly. BUT there are 300,000 species of living organisms yet to be classified, and while most of these are insects and germs, this does not COMPLETELY rule out flying reindeer which only Santa has ever seen.

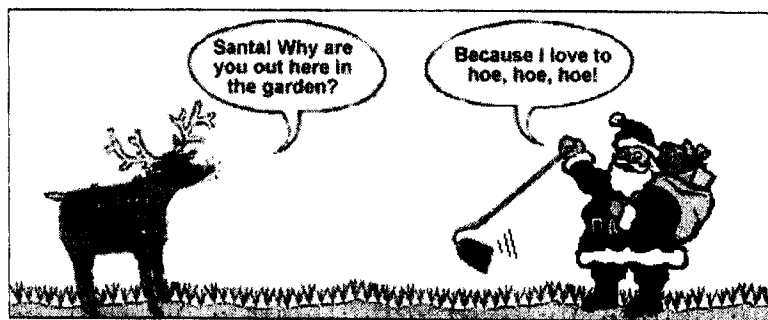
There are 2 billion children (persons under 18) in the world. BUT since Santa doesn't (appear) to handle the Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist children, that reduces the workload to 15% of the total - 378 million according to Population Reference Bureau. At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per household, that's 91.8 million homes. One presumes there's at least one good child in each.

Santa has 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming he travels east to west (which seems logical). This works out to 822.6 visits per second. This is to say that for each household with good children, Santa has 1/1000th of a second to park, hop out of the sleigh, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left, get back up the chimney, get back into the sleigh and move on to the next house. Assuming that each of these 91.8 million stops are evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false but for the purposes of our calculations we will accept), we are now talking about .78 miles per household, a total trip of 75-1/2 million miles, not counting stops to do what most of us must do at least once every 31 hours, plus feeding and etc.

This means that Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 miles per second, 3,000 times the speed of sound. For purposes of comparison, the fastest man-made vehicle on earth, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a poky 27.4 miles per second - a conventional reindeer can run, tops, 35 miles per hour.

The payload on the sleigh adds another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium-sized lego set (2 pounds), the sleigh is carrying 321,300 tons, not counting Santa, who is invariably described as overweight. On land, conventional reindeer can pull no more than 1000 pounds. Even granting that "flying reindeer" (see point #1) could pull TEN TIMES the normal amount, we cannot do the job with eight, or even nine. We need 71,4200 reindeer. This increases the payload - not even counting the weight of the sleigh - to 353,430 tons. Again, for comparison - this is four times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth.

353,000 tons traveling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance - this will heat the reindeer up in the same fashion as a spacecraft reentering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer will absorb 14.3 QUINTILLION joules of energy. Per second. Each. In short, they will burst into flame almost instantaneously, exposing the reindeer behind them, and create deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team will be vaporized within 4.26 thousandths of a second. Santa, meanwhile, will be subjected to centrifugal forces 17,500.06 times greater than gravity. A 250-pound Santa (which seems ludicrously slim) would be pinned to the back of his sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force.



If you lived as a child in the 40's, 50's, 60's or 70's . . .

If you lived as a child in the 40's, 50's, 60's or 70's, looking back, it's hard to believe that we have lived as long as we have...

As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags.

Our cots were covered with bright coloured lead-based paint.

We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors, or cupboards, and when we rode our bikes we had no helmets.

We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. Horrors

We would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times we learned to solve the problem

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day. No mobile

phones. Unthinkable.

We got cut and broke bones and broke teeth, and there were no law suits from these accidents. They were accidents. No one was to blame, but us. Remember accidents?

We had fights and punched each other and got black and blue and learned to get over it.

We ate patty cakes, bread and butter, and drank cordial, but we were never overweight...we were always outside playing.

We shared one drink with four friends, from one bottle and no one died from it.

We did not have Playstations, Nintendo 64, X-Boxes, video games, 65 channels on pay TV, video tape movies, surround sound, personal mobile phones, Personal Computers, Internet chat rooms ... we had friends. We went outside and found them. We rode bikes or walked to a

friend's home and knocked on the door, or rung the bell, or just walked in and talked to them. Imagine such a thing. Without asking a parent! By ourselves! Out there in the cold cruel world! Without a guardian - how did we do it?

We made up games with sticks and tennis balls, and ate worms, and although we were told it would happen, we did not put out very many eyes, nor did the worms live inside us forever.

Footy and netball had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't, had to learn to deal with disappointment....

Some students weren't as smart as others so they failed a grade and were held back to repeat the same grade. Tests were not adjusted for any reason.

Our actions were our own. Consequences were expected. No one to hide behind.

(Continued on page 25)

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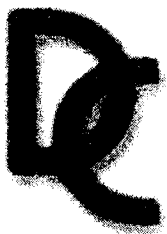
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Rectors Report

Firstly, and I hope that I am not being too early, very warm Christmas Greetings to you all!

This month my Report is being shared with the people of Wing – and I know that they, like us, will be very busy on the Christmas “treadmill”.

If there are any children in your household, you will almost certainly have been made aware of which particular toy is being expected. But have you noticed how many toys now have “batteries not included” printed on the box – usually in very small print? Actually it is a very clever marketing ploy, because the batteries make the actual cost far greater.

But a toy without batteries is not of much use. So, not only do we have to buy batteries for the toy that we give, but we also need a cache of assorted batteries that can act as replacements for other toys that invariably need them just as they are being shown to us.

Batteries are about “energy” and “power”. They make things work – and life is very dull and flat when the batteries are all run down. Without that power we just drift aimlessly about with little purpose to our existence.

The Christmas story is about the birth of Jesus – the child who brought new

life and purpose to our world. His birth was a bit like fitting a new battery. Once again it was possible for the systems to work as the Maker had planned. A whole range of possibilities now became available to human beings. Here are new opportunities that we can grasp – or (like the toy) leave powerless on the shelf.

Through the ages the Christmas story has been passed from generation to generation. We have been given new hope and new strength through the out-working of that story. It speaks of birth and death. It promises us new Life through the Holy Spirit.

Over the next few months and years the churches in Wing, Wingrave, Rowsham, Aston Abbots and Cublington will be working more closely together. Here is a new opportunity for us to discover the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.

Like our Christmas toys, it will only work when we remember to fit the battery.

So, instead of running your battery flat in the run-up to Christmas, remember that Jesus comes with a fully charged battery that can transform your life.

Happy Christmas.

~ Bob Willmott

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We believe that every parent deserves the support they need to give their children the best possible start in life.

More than 30,000 families have been supported through Home-Start UK, a national voluntary organisation celebrating its 30th anniversary of providing support to families with at least one child under the age of five. Whether requiring a shoulder to cry on or an extra pair of hands, Home-Start recognises that families can experience difficulties evolving from stressful circumstances including multiple births, disability, postnatal illness, bereavement, isolation, health problems or a relationship break-up.

With one in four children under the age of five in the UK having a difficult start in life due to family pressures we believe our fully trained volunteers can really help make a difference. Home-Start UK help 60,000 children every year with over 11,500 dedicated

volunteers working helping more than 330 local schemes. Statistics such as these above have resulted in the development of a scheme in Aylesbury.

Since it is our volunteers who make Home-Start successful, we are looking for people with parenting experience. We would love to hear from people who have recently retired, or whose children have just started school and feel that they can make a difference or would like to give back some of their free time to the community. Whilst developing new friendships, skills and wonderful experience, you will receive support and training to prepare you for all aspects of your role with Home-Start.

If anybody holding parenting skills feel that they may be able to offer a couple of hours a week to support local families, please call Aylesbury's scheme organiser:

Shushana Kendrick, 01296 485615

(Continued from page 23)

The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law - imagine that!

This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers and problem solvers and inventors, ever. The past 50 years has been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

And if you're one of them. Congratulations! Please pass this on to others who have had the luck to grow up as kids, before lawyers and government regulated our lives..... for our own good

Q. How do crazy people go through the forest?

A. They take the psycho path.

Q. How do you get holy water?

A. Boil the hell out of it.

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High Street, Whitchurch
Tel. 641384

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& OFF LICENCE**

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

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Tuesday—Friday

8 am to 1 pm & 2.30 pm to 5 pm

Saturday

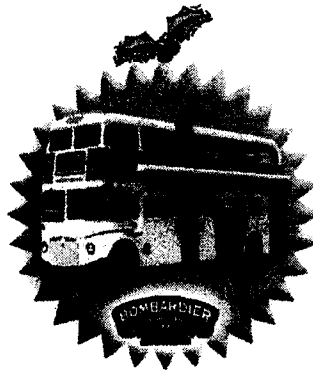
8 am to 1 pm



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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
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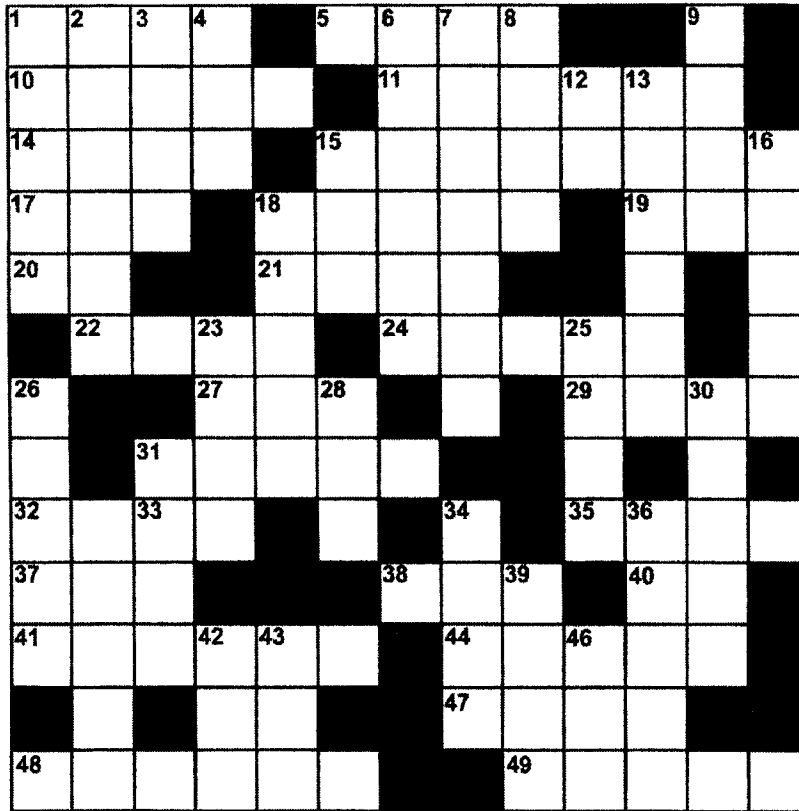


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The Chronicle Crossword

December 2003



November solution

Across 2 Photo 5 Past 8 Roy
9 Lost 11 Meets 12 Pot
13 Set sail 15 Tea 16 Electric
17 Tan 19 Rated 20 Ski 22 Sot
23 Sty 24 Bonn 27 Nig
28 Stance 30 Ice 33 Ta
34 Oarsman 36 Bush 37 Ate
39 Ivy 42 Elsan 44 Needed
45 Adam

Down 1 Moments 2 Present
3 Hotel 4 Oysters 5 Pot lid
6 As 7 Stet 9 Loire 10 Beating
12 Patty 14 Scatters 18 Aorta
20 Son 21 Knight 25 Knob
26 Jum 28 Stain 29 Cause
31 Cads 32 En 35 She 37 And
38 Elm 40 VE 41 Ye 43 AA

ACROSS

- 1 Flat Hill (4)
- 5 Enthusiasm ((4)
- 10 Sluggish (5)
- 11 Estimated (6)
- 14 Adjoining (4)
- 15 Friendly (8)
- 17 Weep (3)
- 18 US State (5)
- 19 --- & feather (3)
- 20 For example (2)
- 21 Reject (4)
- 22 -- heave -- (2,2)
- 24 Boy's name (5)
- 27 ROE (anag 3)
- 29 Globes (4)
- 31 Senior member (5)
- 32 Stain (4)
- 35 Slightly open (4)
- 37 S. AM town (3)
- 38 Domestic fuel (3)
- 40 Printer's measure (2)
- 41 Enlists (6)
- 44 Joy (5)
- 46 Us (2)
- 47 In chimneys (4)
- 48 Lots (6)
- 49 Long teeth (5)

DOWN

- 1 Grind (5)
- 2 Vigour (6)
- 3 Sensual (4)
- 4 Painting eg (3)
- 6 Equal, correspond (6)
- 7 Writers (7)
- 8 Emblem (4)
- 9 Girl's name (4)
- 12 Preposition (2)
- 13 One or other (6)
- 15 Poem (3)
- 16 Smiles (5)
- 18 --- towers (5)
- 23 Owl's call (4)
- 25 Greek letter (4)
- 26 Thread (5)
- 28 Fish (3)
- 30 Vegetables (5)
- 31 Entrance (4)
- 33 LOG IN (anag 5)
- 34 Pokes (4)
- 36 Jokes (5)
- 39 Groove (4)
- 42 Indebted (3)
- 43 Boy's name (3)
- 45 Indebted again (3)

Compiled by Don Bellingham

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St James Church

Church Services

7 th Dec	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Christingle Family Service
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion
14 th	Wingrave	08.00	Prayer Book style Communion
	Cublington	08.45	Parish Communion
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion
	Wingrave	18.00	Christingle
21 st	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	15.00	Carols & Readings
	Aston Abbots	18.00	Christingle
	Wingrave	18.00	Carols & Readings
24 th	Wingrave	18.00	Blessing the Crib
	Wingrave	23.00	Midnight Eucharist
25 th	Cublington	08.45	Christmas Family Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Christmas Service (Churches Together)
	Aston Abbots	10.00	Christmas service & Communion
28 th	Wingrave	10.00	Three Parish Communion
4 th Jan	Wingrave	10.00	Parish Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service
	Aston Abbots	11.15	Parish Communion

ST JAMES CHURCH ASTON ABBOTTS

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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



Sunday Readings

7 th Dec	Advent 2	Philippians 1.3-11; Luke 3.1-6
14 th	Advent 3	Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18
21 st	Advent 4	Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-45
25 th	Christmas	Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14
28 th	Christmas 1	1 Corinthians 1.26-29; Matthew 2.13-18
4 th Jan	Christmas 2	Ephesians 1.3-14; John 1.10-18

From The Registers

Wedding

25th October Nick O'Connell & Helen Duke at Wingrave

Funeral

18th September Vic Clay at Wingrave

9th October Robin Horwood at Wingrave (Methodist)

4th November Beat Goodwin at Wingrave

Church Flowers

6/7 th	No flowers
13/14 th	in Advent
20/21 st	Decorate for Xmas
25 th	as requested
4 th Jan	

Church Sidesmen

7 th	Mr G Kemp
14 th	Mr C Higgs
21 st	Mr A Ford
25 th	Mrs S Ford
4 th Jan	Mr C Higgs

Friends of St. James

XMAS BAZAAR

The Church Room
Saturday 13th December
10 am - 12 noon

The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343	LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
A418 Committee	Tom Manning	682455	Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229
Astonbury	Peter Shorrock	681260	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
Busses	Arriva	468730 or 423445	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Chronicle Advertising	Claire Gresswell	682949	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
Chronicle Editorial	Phil Spooner	681544	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Rector	Reverend Bob Willmott	681623
Church Room Redevelopment	Tom Manning	682455	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Church Room Hire	Doris Scutchings	681243	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	681262
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	585858	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	Shop (Osborn's)	Bernard Osborn	681233
County Councillor	Brenda Jennings	01525 270610	Toddlers Group	Claire Gresswell	682949
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Wingrave Preschool	Claire Upton	681700
Fete Coordinator	Jackie Farrands	681182	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	681011
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave School	Office	681346
Friends of St James	Clare Shorrock	681260	Wingrave Stores	Andy & Helen Hall	681696
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000			
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865			

Please let us know of any errors or omissions

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Sunday 6am - 1pm

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POST OFFICE

Monday - Friday 9am - 5.30pm

Saturday 9am - 12.30pm

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DAILY VILLAGE NEWSPAPERS DELIVERED IN WINGRAVE AND ASTON ABBOTTS

MAGAZINES ORDERED AND SAVED

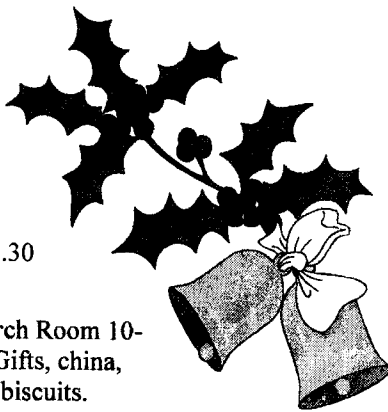
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What's On In December

- Tuesday 2nd** Mobile Library. The Green. Wingrave Road. Oxley Farm. See advert elsewhere for times.
- Wed 3rd Dec** Parish Council Meeting. Church Room. 8 pm
- Thursday 11th** Whist Drive. Church Room. 7.30 pm
- Saturday 13th** Christmas Bazaar in The Church Room 10-12 noon. Plenty of Bargains. Gifts, china, glass, bric-a-brac. Coffee and biscuits.
- also* Christmas Bingo. Church Room. 7.30 pm.
- Sunday 14th** Aylesbury Farmers Market.
- Tuesday 16th** Mobile Library. The Green. Wingrave Road. Oxley Farm. See advert elsewhere for times.
- Friday 19th** Late Night Victorian Market in Aylesbury.
- Sunday 21st** Rambling Club members meet Linslade (Tesco) at 2 pm.
- also* Christingle service at St James Church at 6 pm.
- 25th XMAS** Family Communion with carols at St James Church at 10 am.
- Sunday 28th** Village Footpath Walk. Meet at The Green at 2 pm.
- Thurs 1st Jan** Happy New Year!
- Thurs 8th Jan** Whist Drive. Church Room. 7.30 pm
- Thurs 15th Jan** Lifeboat Bingo. Church Room. 7.30 pm



Classified

Do you need a **BABYSITTER**? I am experienced in looking after children of all ages and am willing to offer my services. Contact Nikki on 01296 681413 or 07903 083085.

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CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle. Up to 50 words—just drop it in (The Birches ~ 50 yards from the Royal Oak on the other side of the road) or email it to us at

editor@aachronicle.co.uk

How do you kill a circus?
Go for the juggler.

What do you call a cat that has just eaten a duck?

A duck-filled fatty-puss.

What do prisoners use to call each other?
Cell phones.

BUCKINGHAM MOBILE

BUCKINGHAM MOBILE

MOBILE LIBRARY - 2003

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

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

Surveys on the Mobile library are being carried out. If you want the service to continue - please use it!

Christmas/New Year Busses

Thursday 25 th	No Service
Friday 26 th	No Service
Saturday 27 th	Saturday Service
Monday 29 th	Saturday Service
Tuesday 30 th	Saturday Service
Wednesday 31 st	Saturday Service
Thursday 1 st Jan	No Service

Refuse Collections

Thursday 25 th	No collection
Thursday 1 st Jan	No collection

Watch Bucks Herald for collection times

Carol Service

The Aston Abbots Carol service will take place on Sunday December 21st at 6 pm. at St. James Church.

The Rowsham Band will once again play for us.



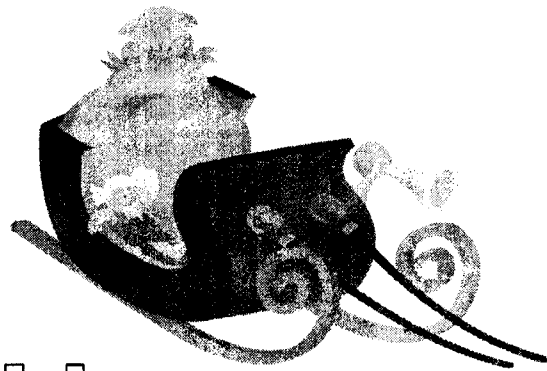
Merry Christmas



Dave and Alison



wish all our friends
A Very Merry Christmas



No cards this year
we will be making a donation
to charity instead

Have a great time.

