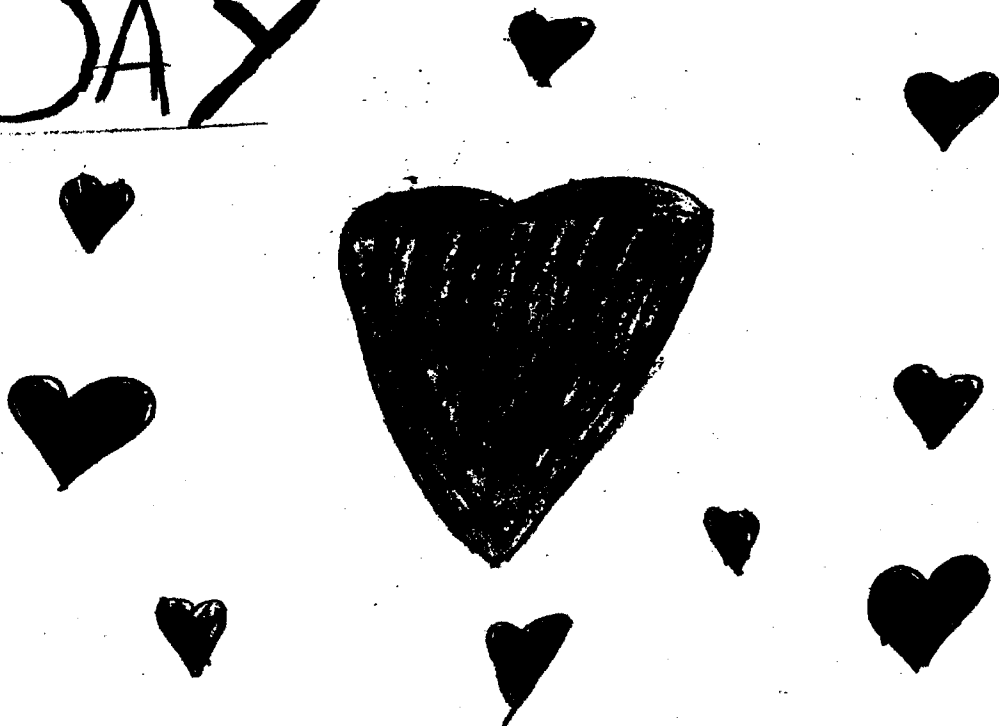


THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 264 ~ February 2007

HAPPY
VALENTINES
DAY



by
Tori Smith.

Email : editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Editorial

On Friday 5th January at about 12.30 lunch time Judy and I were sitting in our kitchen enjoying a bacon sandwich. Three large bangs, which shook the house, seem to come from the front door. I and our dogs rushed to the scene. I just spotted a youth run out of our drive and jump back into his car and speed off. He left boot marks on our front door by the lock. We have made a statement to the police.

I can only assume this was an opportunist thief who tried his luck on our house. With two cars on the driveway and our gate shut I would have thought we were an unlikely target. It just goes to show that we are all possible victims of this sort of crime.

I recall that our neighbours John and Pam had a similar event a couple of years ago.

Amanda Dewhirst phoned me to report that she had had a call from someone purporting to be dealing with security in Aston Abbots. He said he was from St Johns Security Systems. He was well spoken and sounded very pleasant. When he found he was getting nowhere with the call he abruptly hung up. The telephone number was 'withheld'.

Amanda feels he was 'fishing' for information and is keen that you should be aware of the possible dangers of giving this sort of information to unsolicited callers.

Last year I mentioned that I hoped to get one Valentines Card. Some of my devoted fans took it upon themselves to embarrass me by deluging me with cards. I know who you are and my revenge will be swift.

Sadly I did not get a slice of 'fruit cake with a hint of whisky' (see page 5 of January issue). No doubt Burns Night at the Church Room will make up for that.

The wind certainly did blow on Thursday 18th. The old shed on my 'Wild Garden' was blown over. Its going to take three or four helpers to put it back on its feet. An old hedgerow tree had to be taken down as it was leaning out over Lines Hill. The dense ivy in the tree acted as a sail. Pity, because the birds liked it in there.

John Hardcastle

In This Issue

- *Countryside Diary by Peter Knight*
- *Allotment Diary by Peter Shorrocks*
- *New Crossword by Rod Rothero*
- *Be a Parish Councillor*
- *WANTED - Co-ordinator for this year's Fete*
- *Parish Council Minutes*
- *Many thanks to Tori Smith (aged 10) for this month's front cover. Tori is in Year 5 at Wingrave School.*

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 264

February 2007

Contacts

Editorial / General

John Hardcastle
Marloes
Lines Hill
01296 688070
editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Distribution

Andy Bystra
31 The Green
01296 681690

Advertising

Phil Corrigan
5 Nash's Farm
01296 688191
corriganpc@aol.com

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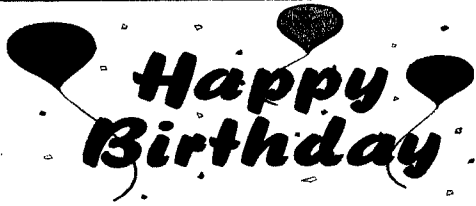
Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 23rd February 2007







































Please pass items to John Hardcastle at Marloes on Lines Hill or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible.

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

Alison's Gossip Column



February

	Charlie Copping	2 nd	
	Chaya Gupta	3 rd	
	Ivy Brandon	5 th	
	Pablo Gutierrez	7 th	
	Vikka Drysdale	7 th	
	Andy Garton	9 th	
	Christopher Ellis	9 th	
	Jack Copping	10 th	
	Richard Clarke	13 th	
	Paul Hewitt	14 th	
	Dana King	14 th	
	Irene Lowden	18 th	
	Trevor Hall	18 th	
	Frank McManus	21 st	
	Sally Dutton	22 nd	
	Simon Gresswell	24 th	
	Fred Poulter	24 th	
	Linda Wheaton	25 th	
	Nikita Dowdell	25 th	



We were all very sorry to hear of the death of Dolly Hinds on Xmas eve. She had lived in Aston Abbots all her married life, mostly in Ross Road, was the mother of six children and also a grandmother and great grandmother. Our condolences to all members of the Hinds family.

A massive 40ft Eucalyptus tree fell across the road outside our house in the gales on the 18th. It narrowly missed an approaching car. Dave was able to see it up and remove the obstruction with the help of Richard Clarke's chainsaw and a two man team who arrived from Buckland Landscapes courtesy of Kevin Copping. Of course the real hard work of lugging all the branches off the road was done by Liz Barlow and me!



If you didn't do it in 2006 make 2007 the year you do!

Soon the Christmas tree will have dropped its needles on the carpet, and Turkey Curry will be on the menu (again)! And are you already thinking about this years resolution and wondering how long before it's broken! Then why not make a

resolution that is easy to stick to,

because you will enjoy doing it, meet like minded people, make loads of new friends, learn something new, have lots of fun, feel good about yourself and best of all

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VILLAGE FETE

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ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Why not apply to join your parish council this year
and do something positive for your community?

The elections will be on Thursday May 3rd. If you are 18, are on the electoral register (or live within 3 miles) you could be eligible.

Your council meets about nine times a year on Wednesday evenings in the Church Room. Simply watch out for more information in the local press or, (from mid-March onwards), contact the Elections Officer or the parish clerk, Kate Curry, on 01296 681137, for a nomination form.

If you want information about the duties of a councillor, contact BALC on 01296 383154 or balc@buckscc.gov.uk

THIRTEEN EXCUSES FOR NOT JOINING THE PARISH COUNCIL

1. "I'm too young." *If you are 21 you are old enough (and see point 5 below).*
2. "What's the point of just joining a talking shop; they don't do anything." *Have you ever been to a meeting? Basing your opinion on the Vicar of Dibley is definitely not valid.*
3. "I haven't got any planning applications in at the moment." *Putting in for planning has got nothing to do with sitting on the council, whatever may have happened years ago. In fact, if your own application is discussed by the council, you must leave the room.*
4. "I'm too busy, and couldn't commit to attending every meeting." *Meetings take place only once every six weeks, and missing the occasional one is perfectly acceptable. Most meetings take less than two hours.*
5. "I'm concentrating on finding a job or furthering my career." *Being a local councillor is a definite plus point to add to your CV – it shows you can make decisions, work in a team and are community minded and proactive. Prospective employers will be impressed.*
6. "I haven't lived here very long and don't know the area well." *If you have lived or worked in the parish for a year, you are eligible. Your views as an 'incomer' should be welcomed, as you will probably see things more objectively.*
7. "I'm worried that I won't get many votes, and look silly." *Even if you are not voted on this time, you may well be approached if a vacancy occurs in the future and be co-opted on.*
8. "Our parish council is full of old fogeys." *Join up and change it then.*
9. "I'd look a fool because I won't know what's going on." *You will be eased in gently; there is help, advice and more formal training available. The Clerk is the legal officer to the council, and he or she is the one who will explain the rules.*
10. "I'll have to sign that code of conduct thing that the press keep on about." *The code of conduct is nowhere near as onerous as made out in the press; out of some 80,000 councillors, only 300 have refused to sign. The code stops situations like the planning one above.*
11. "I'll have to let everyone know all about my business and personal affairs." *The declaration of interest asks you to declare business interests within the parish area, to guard against bias when parish issues are debated. As for personal affairs – get real – everyone knows about those already!*
12. "I'm too lazy, and not interested in my community." *An excellent reason for not joining.*
13. "I prefer to let others do the work, and then criticise from the sidelines afterwards." *Also a valid reason for not joining, but do bear in mind, that expounding your view in the pub, rather than the council chamber, will not change a thing in Aston Abbots!*

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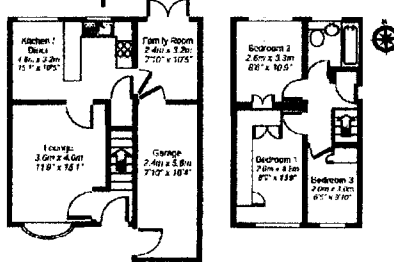
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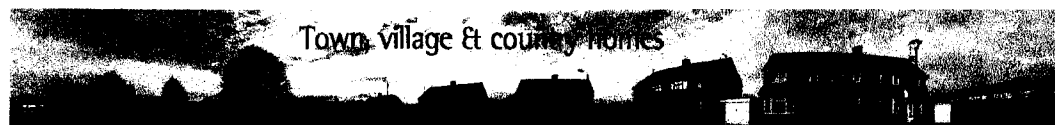
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Letters to the Editor

Printed in the Bucks Herald on 10th January

From Cllr Peter Cooper AVDC ward member for Wingrave

There are occasions when councils lose track of the reason for their existence.

While Bucks County Council undoubtedly has to struggle with the effects of ever reducing government financial settlements, they should remember that providing services that ensure the well-being and efficient operation of the county must always be paramount.

Making proportionate cuts across the council's budget may achieve a financial aim but can lead to nonsense decisions.

Gritting, or the policy to cut it is an example. On frosty mornings road users are being faced with some treated, some untreated roads and where sheet ice is present collisions and disruption inevitably occur.

Like it or not, road transport is the way that most people and goods move and the notion that making an annual saving of £200,000 justifies putting the Buckinghamshire traffic system and our hard working residents at peril, is one that mystifies me.

Come on Bucks County Council! Gritting the roads is a basic service, it must be provided without question.

Also printed in the Bucks Herald 10th January

From CH Higgs Vice-chairman, Aston Abbots Parish Council

With reference to Bucks County Council's decision to omit various roads from the gritting programme (many rural) will Cllr Letheren instruct the council to refund the part of our community tax we pay for road maintenance, or lack of?

I attend regular meetings at Winslow relating to high-way matters and also raise them at our parish council meetings, i.e., pot holes, blocked drains, gritting, but to no avail.

The Aston Abbots-Weedon road has so far had 11 accidents, thankfully none of them fatal, but that's a matter of time. It is a school and public bus route and very busy rat run between the A413/418 but Bucks Council states it does not meet the criteria, so how did Cllr Letheren arrive at this decision?

I urge her to think again about the routes she decided should not receive gritting.

QUIZ

- Is there a 4th of July in England? Yes or no?
How many birthdays does the average man have?
Some months have 31 days. How many have 28?
Can a man in Aston Abbots marry his widow's sister?
Take the number 30, divide it by 1/2, and then add 10. What do you get?
There are 3 apples and you take two away. How many apples are you left with?
A doctor gives you three pills and tells you to take one every half an hour. How long will the pills last?
A farmer has 17 sheep. All but 9 of them die. How many sheep are left?
How many animals of each sex did Moses bring with him on the ark?
A butcher in the market is 5'10" tall. What does he weigh?
How many 23p stamps are there in a dozen?
What was the Prime Minister's name in 1960?

Answers on page 35

A CRICKET DINNER TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF CRICKET TO WINGRAVE

Friday 23rd March

In the Community Centre

Tickets £25 available from the shop or call 681770

Wingrave Cricket Club has the benefit of a new square and new nets at the Park, but it urgently needs new players!

It is particularly keen to attract former players who would like to take up cricket again or those who want a change from the more serious demands of league cricket. But any interest would be most welcome!

Are there any young players out there who perhaps have been deprived of cricket at school and want to take up the game now or who so much enjoyed school cricket that they want to play for a club?

Phone Simon O'Shea 681617 or Richard Keighley 681235

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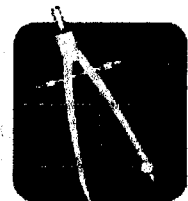
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ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

Unofficial minutes from the meeting held on 10th January 2007 PRESENT Cllrs P.Shorrocks, C.Higgs(Chair), D.Dicken, J. Farrands, M.Hinds and Mrs. K Curry (Clerk). 1 member of the public attended.

Apologies were received from Richard Clarke, Tom Manning and Peter Cooper.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed and there were no matters arising.

CLERK'S REPORT - The Clerk reported that the new footway light for Bricstock is on order, and should be installed soon. We were not successful in our bid to host a 'Music in Quiet Places' concert this year. She reminded councillors that there will be local council elections this year, on May 3rd.

COUNTY COUNCIL, DISTRICT COUNCIL AND POLICE MATTERS

County Councillor Quintyn Ings-Chambers spoke on the following matters:

He encouraged the Parish Council to respond to BCC's Waste Management Strategy consultation. Various options are available to the County Council, and we could end up with either one very large landfill site or around twenty smaller ones.

Local Government White Paper – this deals with how local government will function in the future, and AVDC and BCC need to decide whether they wish to continue to operate as two tiers or become one unitary authority. The Government would prefer to see a unitary authority because of the financial savings. It is also possible that Milton Keynes may make a bid to take over AVDC.

The final decision regarding the new route for the A418 has been postponed pending the outcome of the White Paper consultations.

Local road maintenance – this year the number of times drainage gullies are cleared was reduced from two to one, and as a result many roads have flooded badly. Next year this will change back to two. There have been many protests about the cut in road gritting, and Mr. Ings-Chambers reported that, since January has been a very warm month, it is possible the gritters may be able to grit more roads if February is cold.

PRECEPT

Resolved to set a Village Precept for 2007-8 of £9400. This figure is supported by the budget prepared by the Clerk, and includes provision for this year's instalments for repaying the loan taken out for purchasing playground equipment.

PLANNING

To discuss erection of stables at 2, Longmoor Farm Cottages. It was agreed that the stables do not appear to have been erected in accordance with the plans approved.

06/03192/APP Longmoor Bungalow, Cublington Road, Aston Abbots. Removal of agricultural occupancy condition (imposed by WG/0069/64). Resolved to oppose this application on the grounds that the price being asked is considered unreasonable for a property of that nature, it is far in excess of the actual purchase price only one year ago, and it has not been advertised nationally.

VILLAGE SURVEY

The merits of undertaking a village survey were discussed, and Dickie Dicken agreed to investigate the cost and amount of work involved and report back at the next meeting.

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CHURCH ROOM

Peter Shorrocks reported that the new vicar, Derek Witchell, is in favour of going ahead with the proposed new toilet, using slightly revised plans. The revised plans will be sent to AVDC for comment.

COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE SUB POST OFFICE CAMPAIGN

Resolved to support the opposition to the closure of any rural post offices, and in particular Wingrave Post Office, if it is to be affected by the cuts.

HIGHWAYS

Look at quotations for a new Parish Council notice board – postponed to next meeting.

RECREATION GROUND

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

Resolved to delegate to Richard Clarke the power to spend up to £50 on essential maintenance to the Recreation Ground without reference to the full council, provided he has consulted with at least one other member of the Parish Council prior to approving the work.

Official opening of the new children's play area – postponed to next agenda.

Transfer of land at Nash's Farm to Parish Council ownership under S106 agreement – the Clerk reported that AVDC has now instructed a solicitor to begin the transfer. Peter Shorrocks has agreed to do the conveyance on behalf of the Parish Council in order to save us the legal costs.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To confirm that the next Parish Council Meeting will be on **Wednesday 21st February 2007** at 8pm in the Church Room.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME ALONG



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Our own apartment in Parnu increased by over 10% in value in the first two months and we have seen high rental yields in the holiday rental market over the summer. You may be interested in investing in Parnu, but need more information and advice - we have established Parnu Property to assist people in the process; remember we have done it - have a read on our site www.parnuproperty.com and give us a call if you wish to explore the possibilities.

Please contact us for further details:

Andy & Sally, 73 The Green, Aston Abbots, Bucks, HP22 4LY

Tel: 01296 682716

Mobile: 0774 295 7684

Websites: www.lazy-dog.biz and www.parnuproperty.com

ALLOTMENT DIARY

We may not have the best allotment in the country, but we must have one of the best carpeted! That belonging to Gordon and Anne was especially impressive, being neatly pegged down as well – or at least it was until the gale on 18th January, when some portions of their carpet – perhaps from the middle east - decided to see if they could fly. However, in their absence I've brought back the fugitive bits of carpet, and while their allotment is not as neat as it was formerly, order has again been restored.

The same gales that swept across the allotments also caused havoc elsewhere in the village. Two of Juan and Brigitte's trees were blown over, one across the road, and Dave Lewis had to come to the rescue with his chain saw. And I came home at lunchtime on the Thursday to find the half of my evergreen holm-oak (the tree which stands alongside the road) had been blown over – fortunately into my garden, and not onto my house nor across the road. However, the downside was that it destroyed a large chunk of a magnolia tree which grows outside my back door. It is now possible to see that the first 7/8 feet of the holm-oak trunk is hollow, and the bifurcation of the trunk that remains above it leans towards the road. I rather think that the Council tree officer (whom I have asked to come out) will not only say that I can cut down the rest of the tree, but that I must do so.

This will be a great shame, since my guess is that the tree is probably 200-300 years old, and that my house was called after this tree. I hope to be al-

lowed to retain part of the trunk, and the dense "hedge" of shoots around the bole: and it may be that one of these shoots will one day grow into another tree.

Meanwhile, back on the allotments, the breaking news is that Vic has decided to give up half of his allotment, and this has been taken over by Mike Bush, who you may remember was so keen to garden, that he had been helping Simon on his patch. Vic has asked me to stress that it was not old age that caused him to take this step; the problem was that he was finding that the allotment was producing far more food than he and Christine could eat.

Apart from that nothing much has happened, allotmentwise.

Peter Shorrock



The wood of the Holm Oak is hard and tough, used for general construction purposes, firewood, and charcoal manufacture.

The acorns, like those of the Cork Oak, are an important food for free-range pigs reared for Serrano ham production.

It can be clipped to form a tall hedge, and it is suitable for coastal windbreaks, in any well drained soil. It forms a picturesque rounded head, with pendulous low-hanging branches. Its size and solid evergreen character gives it an imposing architectural presence that makes it valuable in many urban and garden settings. While Holm Oak can be grown in much of maritime northwestern Europe, it is not tolerant of cold continental winters.

DO YOU KNOW Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over a million descendants

Allotment rents due Saturday 3rd February

SOME OLD WATER PUMPS - Water pumps were in common use in backyards of houses and on squares and greens of towns and villages. Pumps made of elm predated those constructed of iron or other metal. Elm stood immersion in water for long periods. Wooden pumps had an advantage in that they rarely froze in hard winters. In 1849 the local board of health erected six pumps in Aylesbury at Whitehill, Back Buckingham St, Oxford Rd, Upper Hundreds, Walton Street and Castle St, and a good specimen of one of the old 19th C town water pumps can still be seen in Pebble Lane. Another old pump was found in Back St Wendover. This had a little gabled roof and a stone basin to catch the surplus water. Pumps were also installed in Aston Abbots at Church Row, New Zealand Cottages, Royal Oak, Andy/Rita's (Moat lane Cottages). The Church Row one is still in existence. As one turns on the tap it is salutary to remember the old time residence who found slugs and similar niceties in their pump water but were they healthier? Remember the sites, it may be one of the questions in the next Quiz Night!! *Colin Higgs*

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Peter Knight's Countryside Diary - January

Mid January and we have, so far, had no winter. The main talking point among farmers is how green and wet are the fields. There is almost an 'I bet my fields are wetter than yours' mentality at present.

Our main problem is feeding the heavily pregnant ewes. As a percentage of the mothers weight a ewe gives birth to the heaviest offspring in the animal world – to produce these lambs and remain healthy she needs a good mineral and energy diet. To provide this diet we normally feed cake from 1st January until after lambing as an extra to the hay and grass.

To digress we still call 'nuts' cake, a hangover from the days when concentrated cattle feed came in a huge slab or cake that had to be broken up or nibbled by feeding it through a hand driven machine. An example was the beautifully named decorticated cotton cake – try saying that in a broad Leicestershire accent with a home roll cigarette in you mouth. It used to sound like the low rumble of distant thunder.

Another common expression for concentrate is the obviously descriptive hard food. Whatever its called we need to supplement the grass and hay to keep the sheep healthy and have strong lambs born. This cake comes in large nuts which are spread across the field. I run/stumble across the grass pouring them from an open sack and trying to keep my feet while being chased by 100 savage sheep. This has always worked quite well and the results have been obvious – the sheep have been healthy and I have kept reasonably fit.

This year the problems must also be obvious. If I can actually get into the field I certainly can't find a dry bit of ground; running with a sack is nigh impossible and the sheep tread on the nuts and neatly press them into the mud – all rather depressing.

As I mentioned earlier everywhere is wonderfully green. This means that the grass and crops are growing slightly and so fresh bits of grass are available to the grazing animal. Should we have a really cold spell I suspect it could do a lot of damage to all this soft vegetation?

Another sign that we have had no winter is the

number of berries still on the holly and hawthorn bushes. At home we expect to loose all our holly berries to the birds by Christmas. This year 75% are still in place in mid January. Obviously there is still plenty of bird food out there.

Usually great flocks of fieldfares and redwings strip the hedgerow berries during the winter. I have not seen one big flock of these birds this winter, just small groups of 20-50. Similarly with the tits especially the long tailed variety – I've seen hardly any this winter. The buzzards are still in residence but seem less than usual although twice I have watched them walking the grass fields feeding on earthworms which account I understand for 80% of their diet.

I expect there to be some pretty early bird nests about this Spring if the weather continues as it is. Thank goodness there are still lots of mysteries in the natural world for us to wonder at.

I remember being taught at College that some strains of ryegrass flower by temperature and some flower, or head, as it is called, by the calendar. It amazes me that winter aconites seem to break through the surface soil during the same week in January every year. The yellow crocus on the Green appears at the same time every Spring – how do they do this?

How can that ryegrass plant start the process of flowering so that the flowers appear during the same 3 days of every year?

The year has turned; Spring is not too far away with its hatful of miracles.

Pete Knight



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Stewardesses is the longest word typed with only the left hand.
The ant always falls over on its right side when intoxicated.

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Astronomy for Everyone

Richard Westwood returns to Wingrave for another course on Astronomy. Richard's last course a few years ago was very popular. So if you missed it or want to learn more, now's your chance.

Five sessions from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on Tuesday evenings, starting on January 30th at Wingrave Methodist Chapel. Course fee £29.

DO YOU KNOW?

If you sneeze too hard, you can fracture a rib. If you try to suppress a sneeze, you can rupture a blood vessel in your head or neck and die.

People say "Bless you" when you sneeze because when you sneeze, your heart stops for a millisecond.

If a statue of a person in the park on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has a all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

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Three Little Words That Work!!

(1) The three little words: "**Hold On, Please...**" Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt. Then when you eventually hear BT's "beep-beep-beep" tone, you know it's time to go back and hang up your handset.... you have efficiently completed your task. These three little words could help eliminate telephone soliciting.

(2) Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end? This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone. This technique is then used to determine the best time of day for a "real" salesperson to call back and get someone at home.

What you can do after answering: If you notice there is no one there, is to **immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times**, as quickly as possible. This confuses the machine that dialled the call and it kicks your number out of their system. Gosh, what a shame not to have your name in their system any longer!!!

(3) When you get those "pre-approved" letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, **do not throw away the return**

envelope. Most of these come with postage-prepaid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular postage "IF" and when they are returned. It costs them nothing if you throw them away! In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-prepaid return envelopes. Send an advert for your local chimney sweeper to your bank ... they might need one? Send a pizza coupon to your bank in case their canteen packs up. You get the idea?

If you didn't get anything else that day, then just send them back their blank application form ... after all, it is their form! If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you return.

You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs them, and it is their envelope, after all, you are just returning it!!!!

The banks and credit card companies are currently getting a lot of their own junk back in the post, but folks..... We need to **OVERWHELM** them, in order to stop them. Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and best of all they're paying for it ... Twice!

Let's help keep Royal Mail busy. Since the Royal Mail are saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, let's help them so they will not need to increase postage costs again. You get the idea? If enough people follow these tips, it will work ---- maybe you'll get very little junk mail anymore.

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No sensible offer refused

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- ✉ **Sam Mock** (Nursery Manager)
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A418 Improvements

(part of article published in Bucks Herald 17th January)

Work on a bypass that will divert traffic past Wing is set to be delayed by six months because of traffic flow issues and the Local Development Framework [LDF].

According to Raj Kumar, group manager for major project implementation, the A418/A4146 strategic corridor improvements, which will improve links between Aylesbury and Milton Keynes, have been put back because of changes in local government.

It means that residents in the villages surrounding Wing will find out which route will be built this summer rather than winter 2006 as originally planned.

Residents from all villages have voiced their con-

cerns saying that the increase in traffic will bring an increase in use of the roads past their house and it will have a detrimental effect on the environment.

Mr Kumar says: 'The LDF is an ongoing framework from the district council and that has delayed their work which has had a knock on effect with the planning'.

There was a public consultation about the route from June last year until September and the responses are being analysed.

Val Letheren, cabinet member for transportation, visited the site on December 14 and asked for work to be done to get more information. Principally they want to look at the difference various junctions along the route will make to traffic movement.

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL

Our parish clerk, Kate Curry, is going to retire at the end of April, and we will need a new clerk. The post is a salaried one, and the salary will be on a scale based on the experience of the applicant, in accordance with national guidelines. It is reckoned that the job will entail about 4 hours' work each week, most of which can be done in the clerk's own time – but will include attending one parish council meeting every six weeks. These meetings are held on Wednesday evenings between 8.00 pm and about 9.30 pm.

It would be necessary for the clerk to be computer-literate, able to use Word competently as well as Excel or a similar accounting package, and to have his/her own computer, printer and internet access. If the successful applicant is without previous experience, the council would pay for him/her to receive relevant training.

Kate has done the job now for 8 years, and will be very happy to liaise with the new clerk in order to pass on the knowledge and experience she has gained.

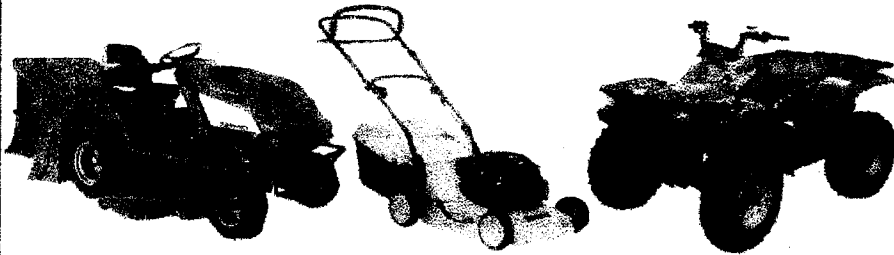
If you are interested, could you please send a written application to me either at Oak Farm House, Wingrave Road, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury HP22 4LU or by e-mail to petershorrock@gmail.com.

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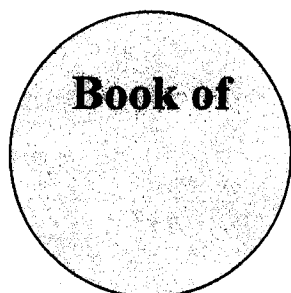
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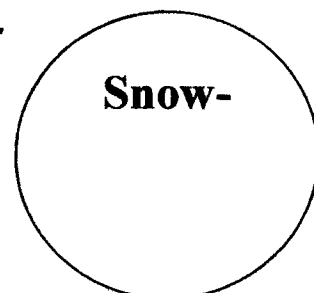
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Read about Jean langlais on page 25

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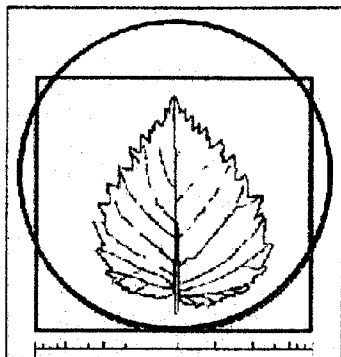
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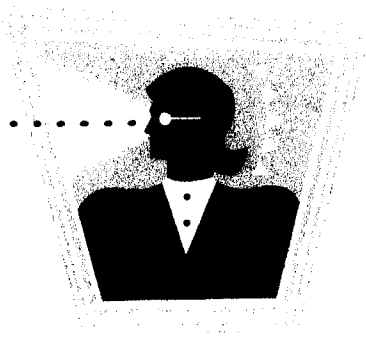
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Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history.

Spades - King David

Clubs - Alexander the Great,

Hearts - Charlemagne

Diamonds - Julius Caesar.

ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

4th Jan.

14 members of our Ladies Club had a delightful lunch at the Rose & Crown, Wingrave, where the new landlords made us very welcome. The food was excellent with a choice of two main courses and three puddings, ensuring every one thoroughly enjoyed the occasion.

Jan. 18th

Despite several apologies for absence being received, 15 members were present at today's meeting. April Curnow agreed to make enquiries regarding a Summer outing to R.H.S. Wisley in July.

The business being completed, our Chairman introduced Mr Tom Cornwall who gave a talk, illustrated by slides of the Austrian Tyrol. His slides of the scenery, flowers and butterflies he had seen were both interesting and beautiful. He was thanked by Carol Morris,

Tea hostesses today were Shirley Ford and April Curnow.

The raffle was won by Pat Stevens.

Shirley Ford.

Jean Langlais - Centenary Events in Britain

For the past two years the Wingrave Singers have been the featured choir in the Langlais Festival in Ille-et-Vilaine in Brittany and they will also be taking part in the 2007 centenary festival in August.

Jean Langlais was an extraordinary man. He was born on 15th February 1907 in La Fontenelle to parents who were far from rich, and despite going blind at the age of two, he became a brilliant musician, holding the post of organist at Saint-Clotilde in Paris for 42 years. He was also a teacher in Paris and in the USA, and he wrote over 300 compositions for sacred music and organ. Langlais, who died in 1991, is regarded by many as one of the pillars of 20th century French sacred music.

The Chronicle

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KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)

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COLIN HIGGS

6 Wingrave Road ~ 681343

MARGARET KENT

6 The Green ~ 681454

RICHARD CLARKE

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DICKIE DICKEN

Norduck House ~ 688577

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District Councillor

PETER COOPER

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County Councillor

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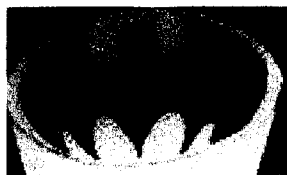
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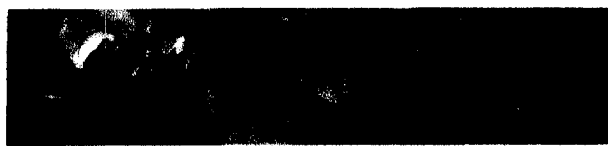


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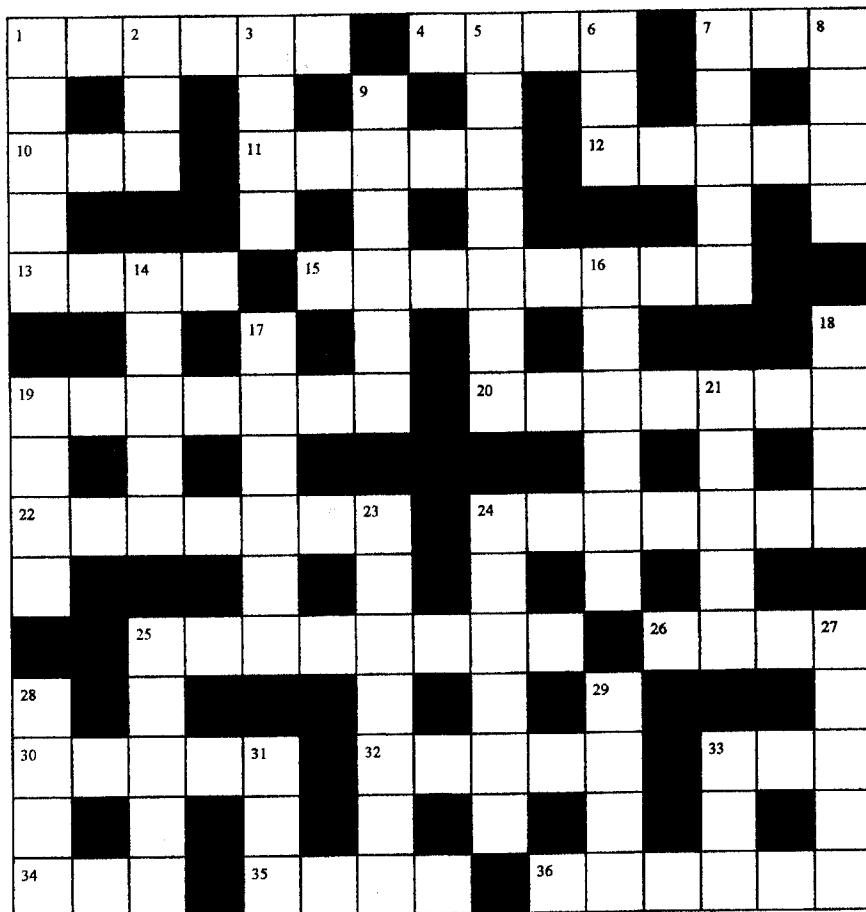
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The Chronicle Crossword

FEBRUARY 2007



JANUARY SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

- 1 Troops 4 Xmas 7 Din
 10 Sod 11 Night 12 Notes
 13 Eddy 15 Severity
 19 Minnows 20 Settles
 22 Reel off 24 Shatter
 25 Argument 26 Brag
 30 Abhor 32 Reads 33 Sea
 34 SOS 35 Gold 36 Brings

DOWN

- 1 Taste 2 Odd 3 Pong
 5 Mothers 6 Son 7 Ditty
 8 Nest 9 Agrees 14 Dance
 16 In tray 17 So long
 18 USSR 19 Mire
 21 Later 23 Femoral
 24 Sunday 25 Ashes
 27 Gears 28 Cars 29 User
 31 Rig 33 Sun

ACROSS

- 1 Fruit of the oak (6)
 4 Coloured part of the eye (4)
 7 Not lost (3)
 10 Payment (3)
 11 Rub hard (5)
 12 Ties (5)
 13 Fabric made with fine thread (4)
 15 This month (8)
 19 Total disorder (7)
 20 Take away (7)
 22 Certificate of authority (7)
 24 Boys name (7)
 25 Before birth (8)
 26 Requests (4)
 30 Good in cakes (5)
 32 Throw out (5)
 33 Run but not to batsman (3)
 34 Short for middle (3)
 35 Judge (4)
 36 Found in recreation park (6)

DOWN

- 1 Bad (5)
 2 Mineral (3)
 3 Used to smell with (4)
 5 Colour of a precious stone (4-3)
 6 Cry (3)
 7 Not calm (5)
 8 Loch in Scotland (4)
 9 Very cold (6)
 14 Used in Highland games (5)
 16 Clothe (6)
 17 Rub with something sharp (6)
 18 Anything small (4)
 19 After darkness (4)
 21 Pain in joints (5)
 23 Used in a circus (7)
 24 Flowering plant (6)
 25 Beg (5)
 27 Flight of stairs (5)
 28 A swindle (4)
 29 Meat dish (4)
 31 Wet dirt (3)
 33 Put out for dustmen (3)

Compiled by Rod Rothero

Trendz
Unisex hair salon
Call for appointment on
01296 681282
Or 07766656411

Price list

Styling

Cut + finish.....£20.00
Wet cut.....£15.00
Blow dry (short hair).....£10.00
Blow dry (long hair).....£14.00
Basic hair up.....£20.00
Shampoo, set + put up.....£30.00
Shampoo + set.....£15.00

Mens

Cut + finish.....£14.00
Wet cut.....£10.00
Cap hi lites.....£15.00

Colour

Full head tint.....£31.00
Regrowth tint.....£27.50
Full head hi lites.....£40.00
Half head hi lites.....£27.50

Hair extensions

European human hair
Half head from.....£190.00
Full head from.....£290.00
Above prices include one colour for a
second colour extra....£50.00
Re-fix.....£30.00
Removal of hair extensions....£40.00

Manicures and pedicures

File + paint...£8.50
Full manicure....£20.00
Pedicure.....£25.00

Bridal services

Bridal hair£90.00
Bridal make up....£60.00
Including trial before and on wedding
Call for a free consultation

February is dominated by 'hearts and flowers' and trying not to forget!

Have you ever wondered why St. Valentine's Day is used as the day to especially honour our lovers? As far as I can find out it has nothing to do with the saint – or saints, actually, because February 14th is the designated day to remember not one but two saints called Valentine! One was a Roman priest martyred under emperor Claudius and the other a bishop of Terni martyred in Rome. Not a lot to do with love there then!

According to my Oxford Dictionary of Saints the chief reason for all the fuss comes from a belief going back to the middle ages that birds pair up on this specific day!

So why do we try to imitate the birds on this day?

Is it because 'Love is.....a many splendored thing, the sweetest thing, the tender trap, the slug(!), the seventh wave, the law, the key, the icon, the gun, the drug, the art, the answer, stronger than pride, stronger than death, strange, so nice, so easy, only a feeling, not a game, like oxygen, like a violin, is life, is love, just the great pretender, in your eyes, in the air, holy, everywhere, contagious, blue, all we need, all that matters, all around, a wonderful thing, a wonderful colour, stranger, a killer, a golden ring, or a battlefield? (quick quiz – who were the artists on those records? bet you can't get them all without resorting to the Guinness Book of Hit Singles!). Sean Connery is quoted as saying: 'Love may not make the world go round, but I must admit that it makes the ride worth while.'

Nikki Giovanni (no, I don't know who that is either!) said: 'We love because it is the only true adventure.'

BOOK THESE DATES Sat23/Sun24th June Flower Festival St James Church to coincide with Czech Event. Sat21/Sun22nd Festival Weekend



That's what is at the heart of true love – adventure, risk, sacrifice. True love is all about giving all of who we are to another person. The greatest model of such love was Jesus. He loved us so completely that he was willing to give his own life to save each one of us from our just desserts when our turn comes around to stand before God.

He said: 'Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.'

If we really want to show our lover how much we love them then we need to try to follow Jesus' example and always put their needs first. The greatest love that we can ever give is to sacrifice our selfishness and change it into selflessness.

Yet Jesus calls us not only to love our lovers with such a passion, but also our enemies! It's a high bar that Jesus sets and many jib at even trying to love so intensely, so sacrificially, especially to show such love to those who have hurt us or our loved ones. Yet, if we try to extend our love to include everyone we meet, even our enemies, then the world would become a wonderful place to live.

The Beatles sang: 'All you need is love' – but I think I'll get a card and flowers too, just to be on the safe side!

shalom

Derek

BENEFICE DATES

February

- 5th 7.30 Cublington PCC
- 6th 8.0pm Wingrave Churches together
- 7th Deanery Synod
- 10th Mrs Bucket supper
- 14th Wingrave Mens group
- 17th 9.0am Wingrave Men's breakfast
- Concert-Longlais, Wing
- 18th 6.0pm BYG at Cublington
- 27th Wingrave Mens group

Duty Sidesman

- 4th Mrs A Curnow
- 11th Mrs S Ford
- 18st Mr A Bystra
- 25th Mr A Ford

Duty Flowers

- 3/4 Mr C Higgs
- 10/11 Mrs S Ford
-
- (no flowers in Lent)

Church Cleaning Rota W/E

- Caroline Lane / Anita Parker
- Mrs Bean / Mr C Higgs
- Mrs Ford/ Mr A Ford
- Mrs A Parker/ Mr A Bystra

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St James Church

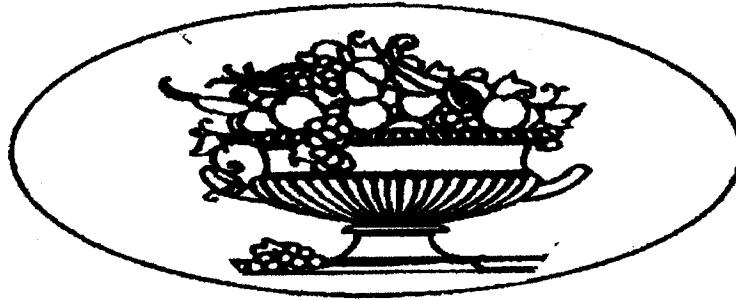
SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2007

Aston Abbots – St James; Cublington – St Nicholas;

Wing – All Saints; Wingrave – St Peter & St Paul

SUNDAY 4TH <i>3 before Lent</i>	Aston Abbots		at Cublington
	Cublington	08.45	Holy Communion
	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion
		10.00	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Holy Communion
THURSDAY 8TH	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 11TH <i>2 before Lent</i>	Aston Abbots	10.00	Holy Communion
	Cublington	10.00	Family Communion
	Wing	10.00	Family Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	People's Praise
THURSDAY 15TH	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 18TH <i>1 before Lent</i>	Aston Abbots	10.00	Holy Communion
	Cublington		at Aston Abbots
	Wing	08.00	Holy Communion
		10.00	Parish Praise
	Wingrave	10.00	Holy Communion
ASH WEDNES- DAY			See notice boards
THURSDAY 22ND	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 25TH <i>Lent 1</i>	Aston Abbots	18.00	Evensong
	Cublington	10.00	Family Service
	Wing	10.00	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	10.00	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	18.00	Lent Service @ Methodist Chapel

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For children aged 2½ - 5 years
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Children's learning is promoted in a
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Terri-Anne Perkins
01296 681963



YOGA

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THURSDAY 19.30 - 21.00**



**Come and join this small
friendly class**

Ring Paul Blissett on 07963 011796

The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Parish Council Leader	Peter Shorrocks	681260
AVDC	Switchboard	585858	Police	Emergencies	999
Buses	L&S	415468	Police	Non-emergency	0845 8 505 505
Chronicle Advertising	Phil Corrigan	688191	Police	Aylesbury	396000
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690	Police	Wing Police Office	396163
Chronicle Editorial	John Hardcastle	688070	Railways	Chiltern	0870 516 5165
Church Mowing Rota	Gordon Kemp	681763	Rambler's Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Church Room Hire	Colin Higgs	681343	Rector	Reverend Derek Witchell	
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 126 4056	Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Coach Trips	Colin Higgs	681343	Roads & Transport	Colin Higgs	681343
Council	Aylesbury Vale District	585858	Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	681262
Council	Bucks County Council	395000	RSPCA	General Enquiries	08705 555 999
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250	Scouts	Julia Ellis	681118
Fete Coordinator	TBA		Toddlers Group	Claire Greswell	682949
Floral Class	Colin Higgs	681343	Whist	Colin Higgs	681343
G.N.O.M.E.S.	Carol Spooner	681544	Wingrave Preschool	Claire Upton	681700
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000	Wingrave Post Office	(PO only)	682964
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865	Wingrave Post Office	(Stores)	681696
LBO Reports	Colin Higgs	681343	Wingrave School	Office	681436
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838			
Mobile Library	Buckingham Library	01280 813229			
NHS Direct	24hr Medical Advice Line	0845 46 47			

Please let us know of any errors or omissions

Evensong services in Aston Abbotts

Just another reminder that services are held on one Sunday each month in our beautiful village church. They are very 'user friendly', commence at 6.00pm and are usually conducted by Colin Smart.

With our very own Nigel Palmer playing the organ, they are becoming increasingly popular, so if you would like to come along to these friendly and uplifting services, please make a note that the next three in 2007 are to be held on:-



February 25th March 25th and April 22nd



DO YOU KNOW?

Honey is the only food that doesn't spoil.
Elephants are the only animals that can't jump

Mothering Sunday

18th March

*is set aside so our Mums and Grandmas
can be pampered in appreciation
of all they do for us.*

*To ensure we don't forget
how special they are,*

there will be a 'Mothering Sunday' Service,

on

Sunday the 18th March

in

Aston Abbotts Church

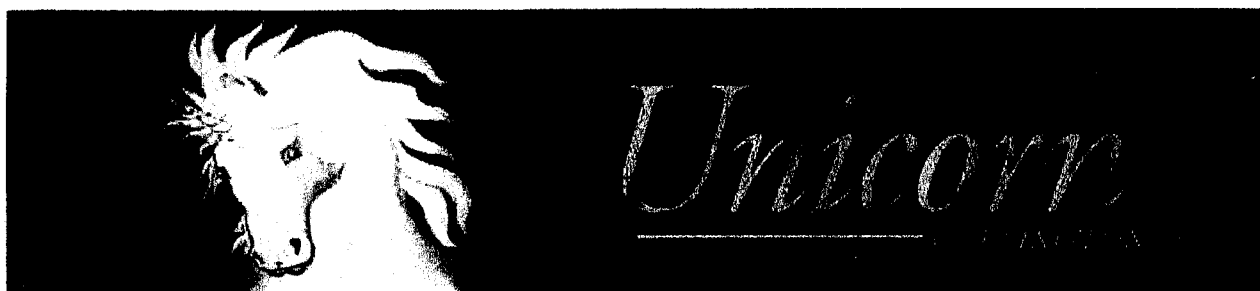
conducted by

Derek Witchell

starting at 10.00

*Please come along,
all 'Mums and Grandmas
will be given posies so
they know we care.*





Afternoon set menu

(Served from Mon to Thursday between 12 to 2.30)

The Unicorn is aware that many of our customers would like to have a set price lunch menu

With this in mind The Unicorn has created a 2 course and 3 course menu based on our fresh Country style cooking

2 Courses - £9.95 3 Courses - £12.95

MONDAY IS QUIZ NIGHT
WEDNESDAY IS PATRICK'S AUTHENTIC CURRY NIGHT

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GOOD PUB GUIDE, REAL ALE GUIDE
AND FINALISTS IN
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MONDAY TO THURSDAY 12.00 TO 2.30 & 6.30 TO 9.00

FRIDAY 12.00 TO 2.30 & 6.30 TO 9.30

SATURDAY 12.00 TO 4.00 & 6.30 TO 9.30

SUNDAY 12.00 TO 4.00



TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE PLEASE CALL US ON 01296 681 261

THE UNICORN, HIGH STREET, CUBLINGTON, NR. LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS, LU7 0LQ

What's On In February

Thursday 1st	Coffee/Shop 10.30 - 12noon	Church Room
	Ladies Club 2.15pm	Church Room
	Whist 7.30pm	Church Room
Saturday 3rd	Allotment rents due 10.30 - 12 noon	Church Room
	(please pay in Church Room)	
Thursday 8th	Coffee/ Shop 10 -12noon	Church Room
	Bingo 7.30pm	Church Room
Saturday 10th	Friends of Whichurch Surgery AGM 10am	Surgery
Thursday 15th	Coffee/Shop 10 - 12noon	Church Room
	Ladies Club 2.15	Church Room
	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room
Sunday 18th	Rambling Club Members Meet at Eggington	2pm
Tuesday 20th	Pancake Day 10 - 12noon	Church Room
Thursday 1st Feb	Coffee/Shop 10.30 - 12noon	Church Room
Sunday 25th	Evensong 6pm	St James Church
Thursday 1st March	St Davids Day	
	Coffee/Shop 10 - 12noon	Church Room
	Ladies Club 2.15	Church Room
	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room

Address

Please note that all submissions for the Chronicle should be sent to John Hardcastle, Marloes, Lines Hill, Aston Abbotts, Bucks. HP22 4NG

Email submissions to:

editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Please don't forget to tell us of any events that you would like included in the What's On list

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle. Phone us on 01296 688191 or email editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Here are the answers:

Is there a 4th of July in England? Yes or No?
...Yes. It comes right after the 3rd.

How many birthdays does the average man have?
....One (1). You can only be born once.

Some months have 31 days. How many have 28?
....Twelve (12). All of them have at least 28 days.

Can a man in Aston Abbotts marry his widow's sister?
...No. He must be dead if it is his widow.

Take the number 30, divide it by 1/2, and then add 10. What do you get?
.... Seventy (70). Thirty (30) divided by 1/2 is 60.

There are 3 apples and you take two away. How many apples are you left with?
.....Two (2). You take two apples, therefore YOU have TWO apples.

A doctor gives you three pills and tells you to take one every half an hour. How long will the pills last?
.....One hour. If you take the first pill at 1:00, the second at 1:30, and the third at 2:00, the pills have run out and only one hour has passed.

A farmer has 17 sheep. All but 9 of them die. How many sheep are left?
.... Nine (9). Like I said, all BUT nine die.

How many animals of each sex did Moses have on the ark?
..... None. I didn't know that Moses had an ark.

A butcher in the market is 5' 10 tall. What does he weigh?

.... Meat ... that is self-explanatory.

How many 23p stamps are there in a dozen?
..Twelve (12). How many eggs are in a dozen? Twelve. It's a dozen.

What was the Prime Minister's name in 1960?
..Tony Blair. As far as I know, he hasn't changed his name.

So, how did you do?

12 correct.....GENIUS...you are good.
 10-11 correct....ABOVE AVERAGE...but don't let it go to your head.
 7-9 correct.....AVERAGE...but who wants to be average?
 4-6 correct.....SLOW...pay attention to the questions!
 1-3 correct.....IDIOT...what else can be said?
 0 correct.....CONGRATULATIONS, you can be certified!

There is still 1Double 1 Single Room left on the Whitby Trip (Mon 9th - Mon 16th July) phone 681343

630 Club - nothing to report

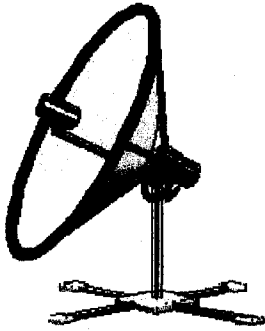


DO YOU KNOW?

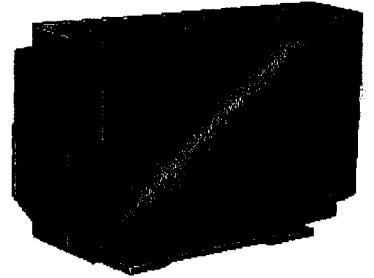
The number is 111,111,111
 And finally 99% of people who read the Chronicle will try to lick their elbow. Ed - I can't do it either

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

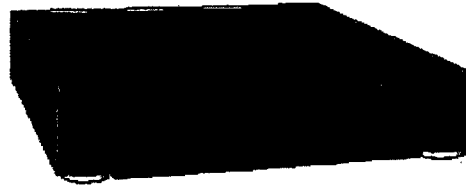


T.V. VIDEO AND
SATELLITE
SERVICING AND
GENERAL REPAIR



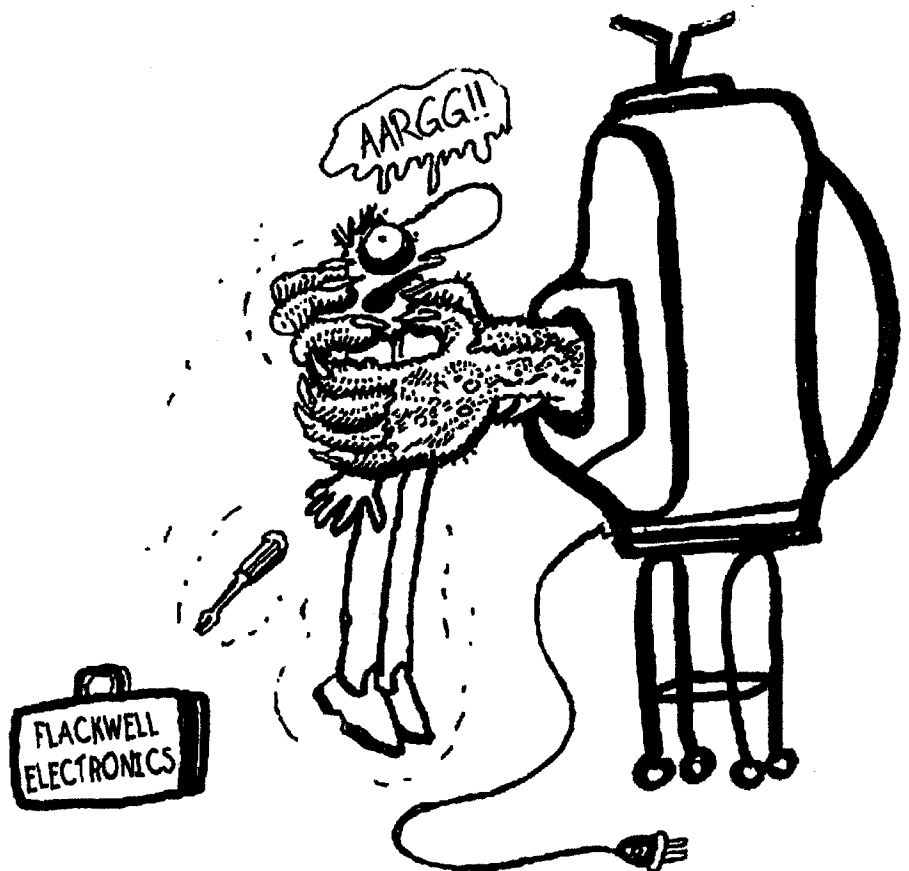
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HE'S SPENT THE
WHOLE OF
JANUARY IN HIS
WORKSHOP
TRYING TO KEEP
OUT OF
ALISON'S WAY—
AND NOW EVEN
THE TVS ARE
BITING BACK!**



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