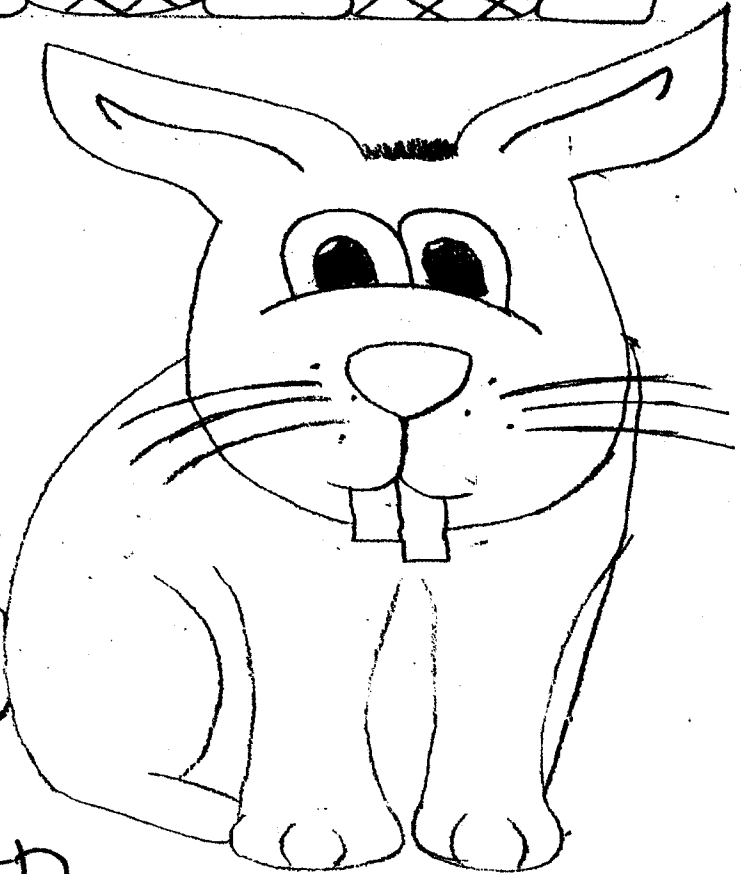
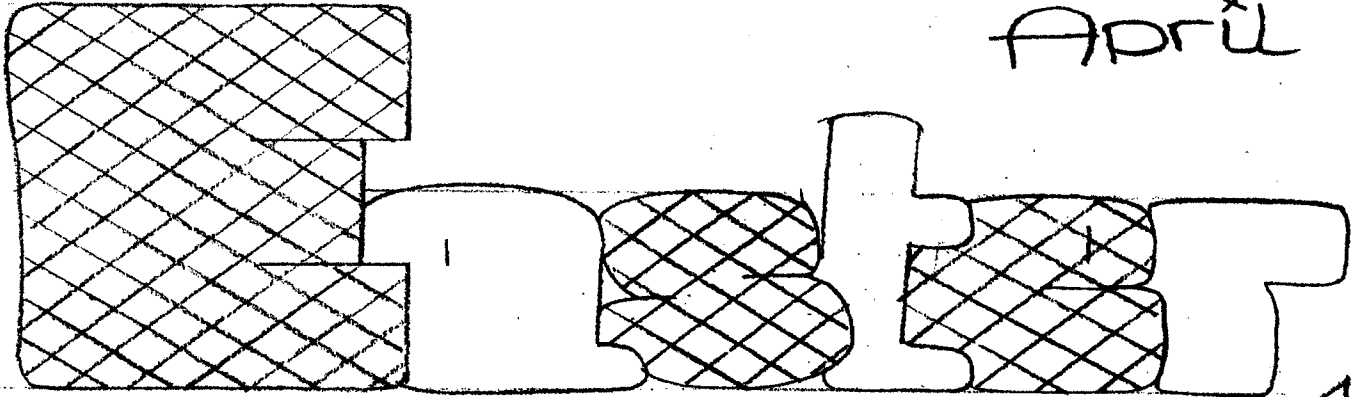


THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 266 ~ April 2007

April



by Jade Smith

EASTER SUNDAY 8th April
and ST GEORGE'S DAY 23rd April

Email : editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Editorial

Went to Cheltenham Races on the Thursday. Wanted to tell you what a successful time that was - the reality is that I didn't get one winner or a place. In one race, which had 26 runners, I noticed to my chagrin, that my selection came passed me in last place. Just goes to show what a fine judge of horse flesh I am. Still it was a good if rather cold and expensive experience. We took the back lanes to get to the course. The countryside round there is particularly attractive.

I have heard that the sale of a house on The Green fell through when the searches revealed the possibility of the proposed egg production units at Norduck Farm. Evidently the Hearing at the High Court went badly for the residents of Aston Abbots. I am thinking of starting up a bone rendering plant, a waste handling plant and a horse incinerator, the whole thing wired up to a wind farm - shouldn't prove to be too difficult to get them approved by this Planning Committee. Details of where we are in the appeal process are on page 19.

In the Bucks Herald there was a front page article concerning the possibility of an Aylesbury Bypass. The plan shows a ring road around Aylesbury, the first bit being the new road round the Weedon Hill housing currently under construction. This road links the Bicester Road with the Buckingham Road. I just hope that this does not make our village a rat-run for Leyton Buzzard/Milton Keynes traffic heading for the Bicester and Oxford roads.

On page 7 there is information regarding a meeting in Stewkley to discuss the A418 Improvements which is chaired by their Parish Council and Friends of the Earth.

Council elections are nearly upon us. By the time you get the Chronicle it is likely that the cut-off date (April 4th) for applications will have passed. There will be some new faces on the Parish Council and a new Parish Clerk. The hunt is still on for someone to take charge of our Village Fete. Please make yourself known if you would like to take on the role.

Very many thanks to Kate Curry and Peter Knight who answered my call for frog spawn to hopefully repopulate my frogless ponds.

John Hardcastle

In This Issue

- *Allotment Diary by Peter Shorrock*
- *Peter knight's Diary*
- *New Crossword by Rod Rothero*
- *WANTED - Co-ordinator for this year's Fete*
- *Parish Council Minutes*
- *A418 improvements - further delays*
- *Chicken Farm Update*

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 266

April 2007

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~o~

A note to all would be advertisers
- More than 202 households receive The Chronicle 11 times a year and with rates from just £25 per annum (far cheaper than some local Parish magazines)...
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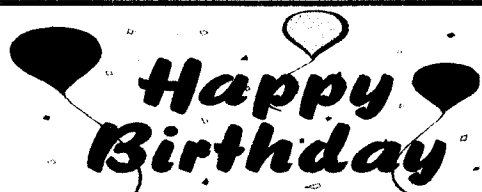
Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 27th April 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

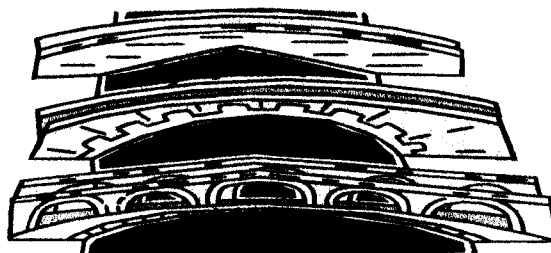


April

Chris Farrands	1 st
Katy Bull-Diamond	3 rd
Ian Hinds	4 th
Caroline Lane	5 th
Philip Wheaton	6 th
Karen Brandon	7 th
Adrian Bystra	11 th
Laura Whyte	11 th
Avi Gupta	12 th
Anthony Palmer	13 th
Geoff Curnow	14 th
Robert Clarke	18 th
Sam King	20 th
Alison Lewis	20 th
Thomas Stefancyk	22 nd
April Curnow	22 nd
Matthew James	23 rd
Enid Ludlam	23 rd
Janet Biddle	25 th
Abbie Lee	26 th
Kate Curry	27 th
Diana Picking	28 th
Kirsty Peacock	28 th
Chris Espley	30 th

Alison is on holiday in the West Indies so no gossip this month. *Ed*

Best wishes to Patrick Clarke in the London Marathon. Patrick says ' This is my first London Marathon and I have chosen to run for the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home. My wife works in fundraising at Iain Rennie so I appreciate the invaluable work Iain Rennie nurses do and understand their difficult financial position'.



OLD BRIDGES

Old bridges disappear in rising numbers as modern traffic renders them too narrow and unable to bear the weight of present day loads, and many have been demolished to make way for modern ones (not so artistic). The only medieval bridge in Bucks is at Thornborough (Buckingham) with 3 pointed ribbed arches, two plain ones and three breakwaters on the south side.

The old bridge at Hardwick which crosses the Creslow Brook was widened but lost its stone parapets.

The brick built bridge at Winslow crossing the tributary of the river Ouse now is protected by the road being diverted so that is now part of the lay-by.

Holman bridge near the new Weedon Hill development was where the battle of Aylesbury was fought during the civil war in 1642.

Then there are many hump backed bridges around the county crossing the canal, and of course the famous Bridego bridge, site of the Great Train Robbery near Cheddington. *Colin Higgs*

WANTED

Co-ordinator

For this year's

VILLAGE FETE

St George's Day Celebrations

21st April 10.30am-4pm

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Starts at 11am

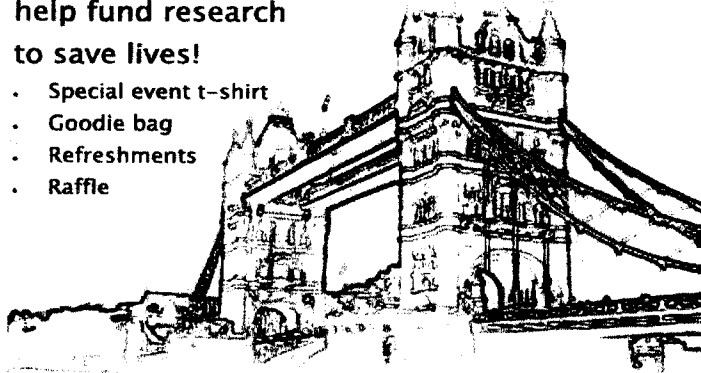
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Czech/Village fun afternoon/early evening

24th June 2007 starting at 2.00 pm

Lottery money, donations from our Parish council and the Slovak Veterans plus our own fund raising efforts is resulting in funding being available for what we hope be an afternoon/evening to remember.

There will be;-

Five aside football between

AA/Wingrave and the Czech/Slovak Embassies

Tug of war

Maypole dancing by the children of Wingrave School

Sports for all ages (not too demanding)

Prizes,

Entertainment during the afternoon & early evening such as the Great Horwood band, and Slovak dancers,

We are still hopeful of getting the

Battle of Britain Flight to fly over in the afternoon!!

Make a note in your diary so you don't miss this great fun day

We hope you will bring along your friends & families. Bring your gazebos and/or barbeque and have a family picnic.

(There will even be toilets on the 'rec'.)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

This is going to be a year of change for the council. We are losing three of our councillors, and our parish clerk, Kate Curry.

The councillors retiring are Jackie Farrands, Margaret Hinds and Tom Manning. Jackie is, like me a relatively new councillor, and is leaving because her other commitments, including being a governor of Wingrave School, which her children attend, coupled with a wish to spend more time with her children. Margaret and Tom, however, have each served the council for very many years: Margaret for 13 years, and Tom since time immemorial (at any rate no-one can remember when he first became a councillor). Tom, of course, no longer lives in the village, and although he still has farming commitments here (and is not entirely unknown in the Royal Oak), has decided that he no longer has a sufficiently strong connection with the village to continue acting as a councillor.

Jackie has recently had particular responsibility for the recreation ground and the playground area; Margaret has been the councillor with special responsibility for street lighting; and Tom of course has twice been chairman of the council

They will all be greatly missed, and the council will be the poorer without their enthusiasm and experience.

Kate has been parish clerk for 8 years, and has done an excellent job, keeping us on the straight and narrow, making sure that we dealt with everything we should, and that we did so in accordance with the rules and parameters that govern how parish councils should perform. She has always been thoroughly conscientious, enthusiastic and efficient, and, when necessary has (in the nicest possible way) bullied us into doing what was required. I know I speak for all of the councillors when I say that she will also be greatly missed. However, I am happy to say that we have already recruited a replacement from within the village, Becky Hunt, of Firs Cottages, who will be starting in May, and on behalf of all the councillors I would like to welcome her to the position.

Peter Shorrocks

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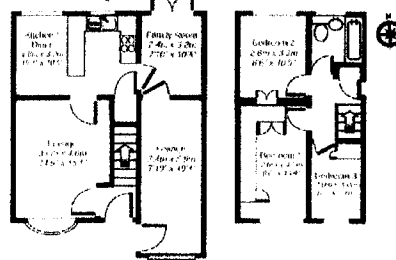
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Letters to the Editor

Letter from C H Higgs originally published in Bucks Herald

MPS MUST FIGHT FOR FUNDING

In regard to the Aylesbury Milton Keynes rail link, it is unbelievable that the cost of the proposed Aylesbury link has risen so much since 1986, and that this link is reported to be costing half of the entire project.

We have been forced by John Prescott to have vast housing development which will of course increase our already overcrowded road network and may even cause gridlock on some roads and will no doubt double journey times.

Aylesbury is the county town and suffers badly from lack of coach and train connections so it is vital for the link to be made.

Our MP's must fight to stop developers derailing plans of the Aylesbury link and support or fight for any funding for this project.

Aylesbury needs this link.

BRICHSTOCH? BRYDESTHORNE? BIRSTON?

Have you guessed it? These are the former names of the Hamlet of Burston which came to a tragic end in the 1500's.. The outlines of the hamlet were particularly visible from the top of Lines Hill during last year's summer drought. The name Brydesthorne means Briddel's thornbush; it was common to mark parish boundaries with such bushes. The 20 acre settlement was listed in the Domesday Book as 'Brichstoch'. In 1516 a branch of the Lee family came into possession. A commission of Enquiry set up in 1517 stated that 'in the case of Burston, the estate gained possession of 400 acres of arable land which was then turned into pasture for sheep grazing. A royal licence was granted in 1526 to impart lands into the manor. As a consequence *'eight ploughs were put down and 60 people were evicted. From that time on tears of wretchedness caused them to remove from the place, from the whole aforesaid hamlet of Byrdeston 'en masse', so that only sheep graze there now'*. Early in the 17th century Sir Henry Lee almost completely rebuilt his manor house and made a park around it. The present house was built in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The name Bricstock (researched by Colin Higgs) was fittingly given to the road and bugalows built in Aston Abbotts.

You are invited to a public meeting on the 'A418 Improvement' plans

Monday 30th April from 8-9.30pm at
Stewkley Village Hall

Organised by Aylesbury Vale and South Bedfordshire Friends of the Earth and hosted by Stewkley Parish Council. Stewkley Village Hall is on High Street North, opposite the Swan Public House and Chapel Square.

If you are concerned about the proposed road building schemes (pink, blue or green) please come to this meeting. This meeting is designed to bring villagers together to discuss the options and alternatives for future travel in the area.

Speakers will include:

Ian Smith – Head of Influencing Travel Behaviour, Highways Agency

A senior member of Bucks CC Transport Department

Tom Cohen – Transport consultant from Steer Davis Gleave & author of a Scoping Report outlining the context of the 'A418 Improvements' & proposals for an alternative study.

Sean Kelly – Wing resident

For further information please contact:

Rachel Gershon Tel: 01296 640967 Email: info@avfoe.org.uk

Victoria Harvey Tel: 01525 385097 Email: vharvey@btopenworld.com



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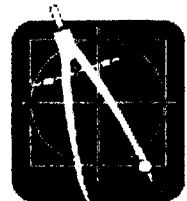
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'The Friends of Whitchurch Surgery are having a stall in the Church Hall during Open Gardens on Sunday, 29th April. We shall be selling cakes, bric-à-brac, books, and cakes.

Please do come.'

*Whitchurch Gardens are open on 29th April 2 - 6pm
4 gardens will be open in aid of
The National Gardens Scheme*

VICTORIAN EASTER FAIR

6-9 April 10am-5pm

Chiltern Open Air Museum, Chalfont St Giles

The Victorian Living History Group will be bringing some of our Victorian buildings to life. The Village Green will be the focus of the weekend's activities, including: egg and spoon race. Horseshoe pitching, swede bashing, Aunt Sally, quoits and ball and hoop. Call 01494 871117 or visit www.coam.org.uk

Come along to a 'fun'

RACE NIGHT

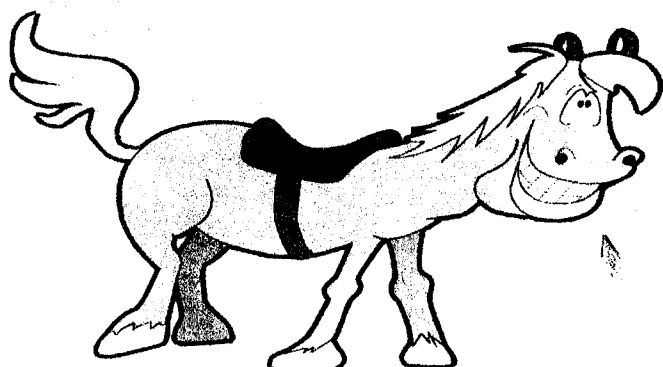
In the church room

SAT 14th April

First race - 8.00

Tickets are £7.50 each and include a fish & chips supper.

To book, please ring Andy Bystra 681690
or Peter Shorrocks 681260



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Please contact us for further details:

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Tel: 01296 682716

Mobile: 0774 295 7684

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

ALLOTMENT DIARY

I had expected to be writing to you this month telling you that work was now in full swing on the allotments, but as I write this piece in the latter part of March, the recent unseasonably cold spell has slowed things up. Many of the allotments are still carpeted; and although I, in common with a number of fellow allotmenters, have spread manure over my patch, and planted my first early potatoes, I have not done much else, and it looks as though the others are in the same boat.

I was astonished to see, a week or so ago, that Simon had apparently started tiling part of his allotment! While I know he led the way in carpeting allotments, and is obviously a bit of a trend setter, I have to say I thought this was going too far! However, a few days later, all became clear, when he erected a greenhouse, and it transpired that the tiles were the base for this. I was greatly relieved.

I have written before about how popular allotments have become with trendy people in big towns, especially because of the current vogue for organic food. I was listening to my radio on the allotment recently, while doing some weeding, and they had an item on the programme to which I was listening to the effect that in some parts of London, there is now a 10 year waiting list for an allotment! And in most parts of London and other big towns, the waiting time is rarely less than 5 years. One of the problems of course is the fact that when allotments were less fashionable, Councils seized the opportunity to sell the land off to developers, so causing a shortage. Perhaps the time is coming when parliament will have to pass an Act requiring Councils to provide a certain minimum amount of allotment land, perhaps in ratio to the population of the area covered by that council – similar to the Acts passed in the 19th & early 20th centuries?

AVDC VILLAGE FREIGHTER

1st May 12noon - 15.30pm The Green

If you have large bulky items you are unable to take to the freighter or cannot wait for the freighter visit, please telephone the Refuse Helpline on 01296 585510 and we will be happy to help you with our Chargeable Bulky Household Waste removal service.



There is a field on the far side of the allotments, and I was very surprised to discover a well-trodden down pathway running across it from side to side. The path was not straight, but meandering. It was so deep in the grass, that it resembled the track that cattle make when they are coming home to be milked, all following the same route. However, quite apart from the fact that I have never seen cattle in that field, this could not be the answer, since the track led from the middle of one hedge to the middle of another. I then wondered if it had been made by a drunken parishioner, who always walked back from the Royal Oak through this field, knowing he was very drunk, and so wanting to avoid using the road. However, since there was no obvious hole in either hedge, I had to discount this theory (attractive though it was).

I therefore turned to the Allotments' resident naturalist, Vic Scott, who tells me that it is almost certainly a badger, since they have this strange habit of, wherever possible, following the same route. Since it is so well defined, clearly the creature must patrol this particular track on a nightly basis.

Peter Shorrock

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MINUTES OF THE ASTON ABBOTTS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2006

The annual Parish Meeting was held on Wednesday 19th April in the Church Room at 8pm.

PRESENT Colin Higgs (Chairman of the Parish Council), Kate Curry (Clerk to the Annual Parish Meeting), Peter Cooper (District Councillor) and 14 parishioners.

MINUTE 1 Apologies - County Councillor Quintyn Ings-Chambers, Bob Bean.

MINUTE 2 Minutes of previous meeting were approved by the Meeting as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTE 3 Matters arising – none.

MINUTE 4 County Council and District Council

No one was present from the County Council.

District Councillor Peter Cooper talked to the meeting about the following issues:

- The 'Waterside Project' in Aylesbury - all land has now been acquired, and old buildings on Exchange Street will be demolished very soon. Plans are also going ahead for a new shopping centre and theatre.
- Housing and jobs in Aylesbury Vale - The Government target is to build 20,000 houses and create 13,000 jobs in the Vale by 2021. The housing development at Weedon Hill is the start of this project. AVDC is encouraging businesses to come to the Vale.
- A418 improvements - this road is intended to connect Aylesbury to Milton Keynes. Public consultation is underway.
- Rail links - The first rail improvement will be the new station at Berryfields, but there are plans to extend the link to Milton Keynes in the future.

Cllr. Cooper then answered questions from the floor, after which the Chairman thanked him for attending the meeting.

MINUTE 5 Village Activities.

Reports were given on activities during the year of the following organisations: G.N.O.M.E.S. (April Curnow), Ladies' Club (Shirley Ford), P.C.C. (Colin Higgs) and Parish Council (Colin Higgs)

MINUTE 6 Recreation Ground

Peter Cooper told the meeting that the strip of land, which formed the section 106 agreement when Nash's Farm was built, will pass to the village as 'freehold'. Richard Clarke reported that the bonfire would no longer be available for residents to put their garden rubbish on. Instead a 'clean' fire will be made from pallets brought in for the purpose.

MINUTE 7 Children's Play Area

Jackie Farrands informed the meeting that the first phase of the refurbishment is now complete, with the installation of the Multiplay climbing frame. Enough funds have been raised to order the remaining equipment (aerial runway and basketball hoop), so phase two should be completed during the next couple of months.

MINUTE 8 Church Room

Colin Higgs explained that repairs to the Church Room are ongoing. A new water heater and cooker have been purchased, and planning permission has been granted to improve the toilets and disabled access. Quotes for this work are being sought, and it is expected to cost in the region of £7000. The Parish Council holds around £6000 for this work, leaving the remainder to be raised by other means.

MINUTE 9 New Village Centre

Phil Spooner (on behalf of Neil Chesher) said that the plan is to take a party of interested people to look at the hall at Quainton, with a view to using it as a model. A further meeting will then be held to appoint committees.

MINUTE 10 The Chronicle

John Hardcastle (editor) thanked Phil Spooner for his continued support. Claire Gresswell (retiring advertising manager), Andy Bystra (printing and distribution) and John Whyte (Finances) were all thanked for their hard work over the year, contributing to the continuing success of the Chronicle. John reported that the finances were stable, and requested that the current level of financial support be maintained.

MINUTE 11 Fete 2005

Dickie Dicken reported that the Fete made a record profit of about £3619 last year.

MINUTE 12 Fete 2006

- After some discussion, it was agreed to distribute the proceeds as follows:
 - a) Church 35%
 - b) Church Room - fund for toilet refurbishment 40%
 - c) Chronicle 15%
 - d) Recreation Ground 10%

MINUTE 13 A.O.B.

- Concerns were expressed about the increasing levels of traffic on Moat Lane / Lines Hill.
- It was noted that the horse warning signs on Moat Lane had gone.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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Peter Knight's Countryside Diary - 17th March

What a glorious week's weather we have just enjoyed. As I write we are, according to the weather forecast, due to suffer cold, snow and strong winds on Monday. If that is correct I only hope it doesn't last long.

This last weeks sunshine and lack of rain has done wonders for agriculture as a whole, as it has for gardens.

The arable farmers have been able to get onto most of their land and apply the spring fertilizer so essential for a good crop.

We don't use any fertilizer on the land we farm which is just as well as our biggest field is still far too wet to travel over.

As you know from your lawns the grass is growing and the sheep have a bite of fresh grass every day. I remember a sheep farmer from the Romney marsh once telling me that there should never be any grass longer than one inch. The sheep should graze one day what grew during the previous 24hrs. The other 'test', it was said, was that if you dropped a shilling piece in a sheep field you should be able to walk back and find it.

Back to the weather - the dry week has redeemed what had been a rather harassing lambing for us. We had suffered some very bad nights of heavy, cold rain which proved disastrous for small baby lambs born outside. Obviously those sheep we have in the lambing shed were fine.

I well remember an old saying which probably dates back to the middle ages:- 'A peck of dust in March is worth a King's Ransom'.

Wasn't Richard the Lion Heart the last of our kings to be ransomed, and how many people know what a peck is nowadays?

I believe a peck is a volumetric measure equal to a quarter of a bushel - and a bushel - well that's the volume of a half cwt of barley - half a cwt? Well that's four stone and a stone? - OK so it's totally irrelevant these days but the fact remains that, as far as I am concerned, 'a peck of dust in March is worth a King's Ransom'.

There have been many signs of an early Spring that I have noticed this year. Probably the most surprising to me was a moorhen chick on Wingrave Pond on 14th March - I hope it survived.

There has been a glorious show of violets and the village green was sparkling with them in today's sun. I understand that there was once a huge trade

in violets, grown in Devon coming up to London by train and being sold by flower girls all over the city. Its nice to think that Londoners had the heart to enjoy the spring posies. Violets are renowned for their scent but, strangely, I have never been struck by the scent of any that I have picked - perhaps I have been unlucky.

After all another saying - 'If he fell in the cess pit he'd come up smelling of violets!'.

Yesterday I saw three different species of butterfly in as many minutes. The yellow brimstone is always the first butterfly about in spring, coming from the ivy where it hibernates but I've also seen a cabbage white, small tortoiseshell and my favourite of all butterflies the comma.

One of the more obvious signs of Spring is a farmer with boots on - not wellies. Every Spring there is one day when, at last, the ground is dry enough and you can't bear wearing wellies any longer.

Is it the first day of Spring when the boots go on? Perhaps not; the really big day used to be turn-out day. That glorious day when the ground was dry, there was grass in the field and the cows were turned out of their winter quarters to graze. We always took time to stand and watch as those matronly cows stretched their legs and kicked their heels in the air - joy for all.

One first day of Spring I shall never forget. There were three of us. Country boys, attending Technical College - the day was just too beautiful and I had a £1 note in my wallet. We skipped off classes, went down to the river and hired the first rowing boat of the season. We rowed to the next town where we sent John off to find some lunch. Laying and dozing on the bank we talked of sport and girls and soaked up the sun. It was a glorious day, rejuvenating, a real first day of Spring.

When was yours?



Peter Knight

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AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!!!!

Samantha, (herself a great lover of quizzes) is to run a

Quiz Night

in the

Church Room

on

15th May

at

8.00 pm

**Please come along and give Samantha your
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'Nice nibbles' will be provided

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any profit to go towards the Czech/ Village 'Fun Day'

6 reasons not to mess with children.

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah". The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

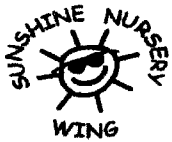
As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honour" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" One little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. "Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor.' A small voice at the back of the room rang out, "And there's the teacher, she's dead."

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face." "Yes," the class said. "Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?" A little fellow shouted, "Cause your feet ain't empty."

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."



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Annual Parish Meeting

“Note for your Diary”.

Church Room

18th April 8pm

As this meeting decides the allocation of the monies from the village fete, among other things, it is desirable that as many people as possible should attend.

AGENDA

Apologies

To approve minutes of meeting held on 19th April 2006

Matters arising

County Council, District Council and Police reports

Annual report from the Parish Council Chairman

Presentation by Sarah Allwood from Bucks Community Action on ‘Village Plans’

Village Activities 6.30 Club, Gnomes, Ladies Club, Church, PCC, Czech Connection

Children's Play Area and Recreation Ground

Church Room

The Chronicle

Fete 2006

Fete 2007

A.O.B.

For Minutes of last year's meeting see page 13
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CHICKEN FARM UPDATE

You might have read in the 7th March Bucks Herald that Judge Susan Hamilton decided, presumably after a bad night, that she would not permit our case to go forward to a Judicial Review, but left the door open for us to appeal against her decision. At the time of writing, we still do not have the reasons for her decision.

The chicken farm at Norduck first reared it's head in late 2004 when the then owner refused to permit Kinsale Agriculture to purchase the land subject to a condition that he would be given permission to install a chicken farm. However, following a meeting with AVDC officers, Kinsale decided to buy the land and then submitted a planning application for the chicken farm. You can draw your own conclusion as to what was agreed at this meeting. The officers were hasty in recommending permission in the first place and after that time the die was set and, as you have witnessed, no issues that were raised were going to change their minds.

Even though there was a great deal of concern about the environmental aspects of the application, a Screening Opinion was not made prior to the public meeting in September 2005. We prompted AVDC to establish this Opinion and at the subsequent meeting in March 2006 the Committee did not discuss the Screening Opinion but accepted it as a fait accompli. The Opinion relied on an Operational Management Scheme (OMS) (not agreed until September 2006) on which neither the Committee nor the public were given the opportunity to

comment before the March meeting.

Kinsale dictated the OMS to AVDC which was incomplete and did not cover the legitimate concerns such as noise and composting of manure. The Officers seemed unwilling or unable to negotiate significant improvements. They did not consult any acknowledged expert on the contents. It was not subject to public scrutiny or comment. It contained a complaint mechanism which relied on reporting of complaints to AVDC on an annual basis and no provision for action should those complaints be justified. All in all, rather less than the detailed OMS demanded in the AVDC Agreement.

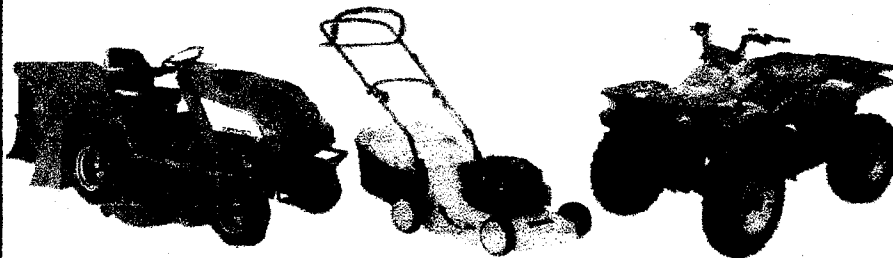
AVDC dismissed the risk of Avian Flu/Bio Security as a matter National Concern and therefore not relevant to planning, but they should have taken expert advice as to all the implications and then decided whether or not this was a material consideration. Evidence from a veterinary and recognised poultry expert suggests that in developing a bio security programme, consideration would need to be given to the public rights of way that cross the chicken paddocks. There is no evidence that Kinsale intends to consider this aspect of management. The Judge's written reasons for rejecting our case will form the basis of any subsequent appeal. Watch this space, all is not yet lost.

Dickie Dicken

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'For the times the are a-changing' at the Church.

Change can be one of the hardest things to bring to bear. We know that living things change and growing things change and I sometimes ask myself whether I am comfortable, or enjoying the comfort, of not changing. It is very easy to stay as we are. It is very easy to keep the status quo and sit back and yet this gives me a problem.

As you know I am Priest in Charge of not just your church but three others as well, all of which have their Sunday service time at 10am. As I can only be in one place a time I have a problem. You see, I don't feel I can carry out my ministry properly and fully only meeting and worshipping with you once a month. Together with the Church Wardens and PCC's we put our thinking caps on and have come up with a solution which involves changing service times and which will enable me to be with you 2 or 3 times a month.

From Easter Sunday the new pattern of service times will be as follows:

	WING	WINGRAVE	ASTON ABBOTTS	CUBLINGTON
1	8.0 Holy Communion 10.45 People's Praise	9.15 Holy Communion	9.15 Morning Prayer	9.15 Family Holy Communion
2	9.15 Holy Communion	8.0 Holy Communion (BCP) 10.45 Holy Communion	9.15 Holy Communion	9.15 Holy Communion
3	8.0 Holy Communion 10.45 Holy Communion	9.15 People's Praise	6.0pm Holy Communion	9.15 Holy Communion
4	9.15 Holy Communion	10.45 Holy Communion	6.0pm Evensong	9.15 Family Service

Where there are 5 Sundays in a month we plan to have a 10.00am Benefice service rotating around the 4 parishes and a 6.0pm contemporary praise at Wing or Wingrave.

Times may change for Festivals and special events, and when we have ministers on holiday but we'll try to keep you up to date via this magazine and posters at the church.

I realise this will probably take some getting used to and we welcome your feedback once you've experienced it. We intend to use this pattern until at least next Christmas after which we'll have a review to see how it's worked out and refine it as necessary.

Shalom Derek

Revd Derek Witchell, Priest in Charge, Aston Abbots, Cublington, Wing and Wingrave

These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we

have a nursery downstairs.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

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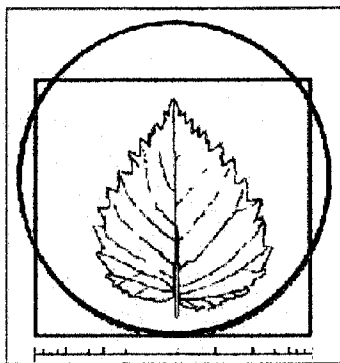
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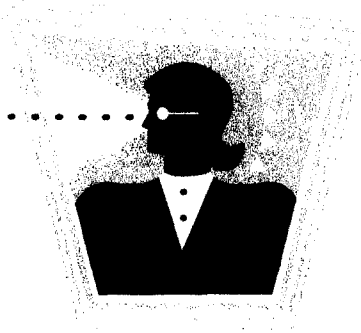
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ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

1st Mar.

Today we held our Annual Spring lunch in the church room Aston Abbots.

The Chairman, Joan Alexander welcomed the 30 members and friends present after which the Rev. Siv Tunnicliffe said the grace.

We all then 'tucked in' to a buffet lunch of ham, new potatoes, salads, French bread and sausage rolls. This was followed by delicious puddings, rounded off with a selection of cheese & biscuits and coffee. All this lovely food had been provided by the members.

The raffle was larger than usual resulting in everybody going home with a prize.

All in all, we felt we had enjoyed a very nice lunch and above all, good fellowship.

15th March

Seventeen members present at today's meeting in the Church Room. The minutes were read and signed. Our Spring Lunch held on March 1st raised £190 for Club funds.

The chairman then introduced today's speaker Neil Rees who had come to give us a talk and slideshow on how the Prime Minister and staff of the Czechoslovak Government in Exile came to live in Aston Abbots and Wingrave during the Second World War. He was thanked by Sheila Read.

Today's tea hostesses were Siv Tunnicliffe and Etherley Gutteridge. Raffle winners Beryl Shon and Carol Morris.

Shirley Ford

The Easter refuse and recycling collection will be on Friday 13th April - not our normal Thursday

CHURCH ROOM BOOKINGS

Please contact Colin Higgs on 681343 if you wish to book the Church Room

Rates are as follows:

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£5 per hour (plus metered electricity) and £50 Booking Deposit (Returnable)

For Non-Villagers:

£10 per hour (plus electricity) and £50 Booking Deposit (Returnable)

PCC AGM

is to be held in Church room

on Mon April 16th

Starting at

7.00 (To elect Church Wardens – all residents eligible to vote)

7.30 - Annual Parochial Church Meeting

All villagers are welcome to come along, meet our new Vicar, PCC members and share views on our church.

(note;- only those on the Church electoral role can vote for PCC members)

Tea & biscuits will be served

The Chronicle

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(The amount subject to 100 people taking part. The more that join, the bigger the prizes)

The first draw will take place in early May (in St. James Church) with the subsequent eleven draws taking place on the first Sunday of each month.

If you would like to take part just fill in the form below and return to Colin Higgs, 6 Wingrave Rd. Tel: 681343

Name.....

Address.....

Tel. No.....

You get 12 draw entries for £15.00

As from Easter Day church service times will change as follows

1st and 2nd Sundays

9.15am Holy Communion

3rd and 4th Sundays

6pm (Evensong 4th Sunday)

5th Sunday

United Benefice Service alternating between villages

See Page 21 for further details



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PETER SHORROCK (Chairman)

Oak Farm House ~ 681260

KATE CURRY (Parish Clerk)

2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane ~ 681137

COLIN HIGGS

6 Wingrave Road ~ 681343

MARGARET KENT

6 The Green ~ 681454

RICHARD CLARKE

Maplewood, The Green ~ 681286

JACKIE FARRANDS

1 Norduck Cottages ~ 681182

DICKIE DICKEN

Norduck House ~ 688577

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PETER COOPER

Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

County Councillor

QUINTIN INGS-CHAMBERS

Margaret Kent is Street Light Officer, so people should let her know if a light isn't working. Number above.

Parochial Church Council

Rev Derek Witchell 682320

Gordon Kemp 681763

Shirley Ford 681865

Ann Goodman 681763

Andrew Ford 681865

Colin Higgs 681343

Andy Bystra 681690

April Curnow 681459

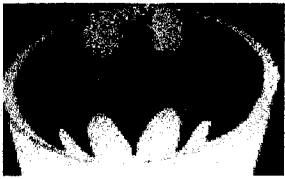
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On the Rec
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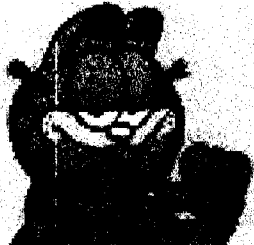
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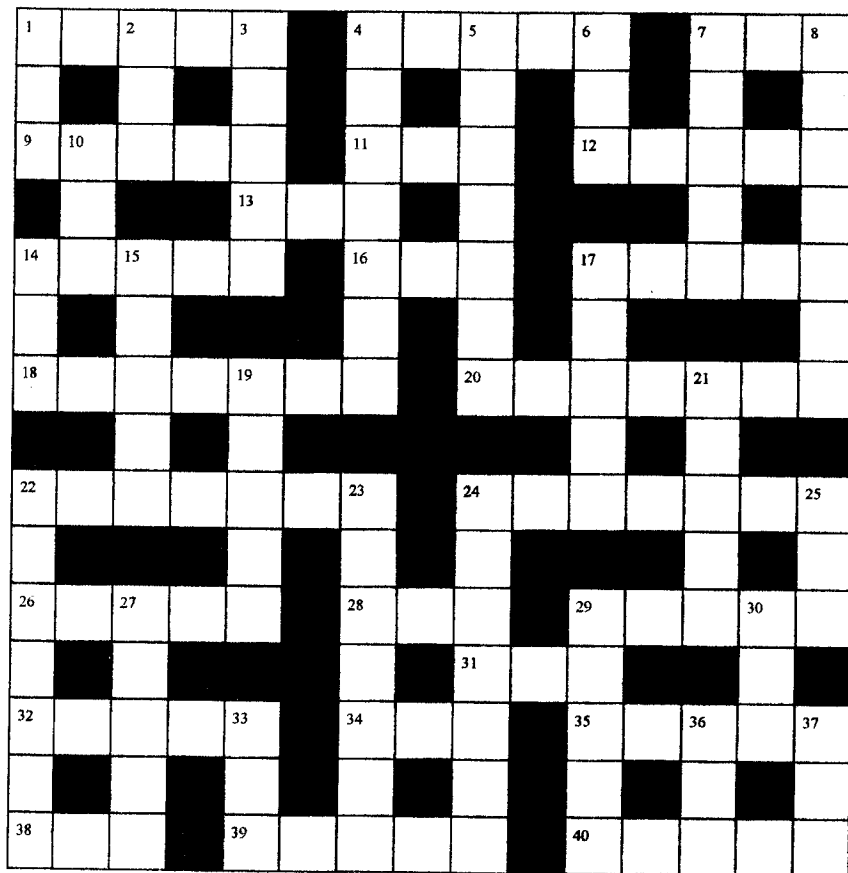
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The Chronicle Crossword

APRIL 2007



MARCH SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

- 1 Fungus 4 Bake 7 Bat
 10 Day 11 Gavel 12 Kyrie
 13 Echo 15 Clarinet
 19 Hard one 20 Yawning
 22 Winched 24 Annuals
 25 Hawthorn 26 Send
 30 Barge 32 Inapt 33 Can
 34 Yes 35 Gasp
 36 Smudge

DOWN

- 1 Fudge 2 Nay 3 Urge
 5 Allergy 6 Elk 7 Beret
 8 Then 9 Svelte 14 Heron
 16 Now and 17 No show
 18 Ages 19 Hawk
 21 Image 23 Dahlias
 24 Aerial 25 Hares
 27 Dunce 28 Ebay
 29 Stem 31 Egg 33 CID

ACROSS

- 1 Love, affection (5)
 4 Highly (the best) (5)
 7 Twitch (3)
 9 Played by many (5)
 11 Across a tennis court (3)
 12 Showing keen interest (5)
 13 Served in cups (3)
 14 Small garden flower (5)
 16 Name of a river (3)
 17 Popular Canadian ski resort (5)
 18 Played also Wednesdays and Saturdays (7)
 20 Gossip about others (7)
 22 Swiss tennis ace (7)
 24 Delivers your pints (7)
 26 Narrow passage (5)
 28 Heavy weight (3)
 29 Type of sword (5)
 31 Unit of electricity (3)
 32 Cup (5)
 34 Side of your head (3)
 35 Where we live (5)
 38 ... the table (3)
 39 Collection of things (5)
 40 Large animal from Asia (5)

DOWN

- 1 Animal with long ears (3)
 2 Or nearest offer (abbr) (1,1,1)
 3 Irritable (5)
 4 Leave quickly (3-4)
 5 Badly torn (7)
 6 Recolour (3)
 7 Go somewhere when not asked (3-2)
 8 Be watchful (7)
 10 Small vegetable (3)
 14 Friend (3)
 15 To notice something(5)
 17 Fight (5)
 19 Not late (5)
 21 Leave the forces (5)
 22 Worried about something (7)
 23 Fall back (7)
 24 Leader of a nation (7)
 25 Flock of pheasants (3)
 27 Tall and thin (5)
 29 None left (5)
 30 Rodent (3)
 33 Throw a curved ball (3)
 36 Tear (3)
 37 Not him (3)

Compiled by ROD ROTHERO

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the view from the vicarage.....

I don't know whether you saw or remember the delightful children's poems that were published in the Aston Abbots Chronicle last month? They were full of charming images of bunnies hopping, sun shining, lambs running, tulips unfurling and Easter eggs. Sadly, though, there was no mention of the chief reason we have a celebration at all – the death on a cross of a young Galilean named Jesus who dared to teach people to love God and love their neighbour, who dared to claim that his death would take the punishment we all deserve for turning our backs on the God who loves us to bits, whom God raised back to life after three days and who promises that all who follow his way will get a new and better life than this on the other side of the doorway of death.

Actually, many of the images the children used are of new life – lambs, spring flowers, life-giving sunshine, even Easter eggs – hollow eggs representing both the empty tomb after Jesus resurrection and the new life that is offered through him. But without remembering the reason behind the images Easter becomes just another marketing opportunity to sell us chocolate, cards, flowers and (my favourite!) hot cross buns. If we're going to forget about Jesus why still put a cross on the bun?

So, in the interests of balance, I offer another Easter poem – not one of mine I admit but one by the poet Steve Turner entitled 'Poem for Easter' (maybe not the most original title!):

*Tell me:
What came first
Easter or the egg?
Crucifixion
or daffodils?
Three days in a tomb
or four days in Paris?
(returning
Bank Holiday Monday).*

*When is a door
not a door?
When it is rolled away.
When is a body
not a body?
When it is risen.*

*Question.
Why was it the Saviour
rode on a cross?
To get us
to the other side.*

*Behold I stand.
Behold I stand and what?
Behold I stand at the door and*

knock knock.

The problem with the story of Easter and why we avoid it is that it's just not possible – or is it? It couldn't have happened, could it? But if it **did**? Oh my! That would change my life, wouldn't it?
Shalom Derek

BENEFICE DATES April

3 rd	Aston Abbots PCC AGM
8/9 th	Cream Teas, Wing
9 th -15 th	Benefice trip to Spring Harvest, Skegness
10 th	Coach party NT, Wing
12 th	Children's holiday club, Wingrave
17 th	7.30 Benefice Youth planning meeting
21 st	9.0am Men's breakfast, Wingrave
22 nd	BYG at Aston Abbots
29 th	10am Benefice service Aston Abbots

Church Sidesman

1st	Mr C Higgs
8th	Churchwardens
15th	Mrs A Curnow
22nd	Mr A Ford
29th	TBA

Cleaning

w/e 1/2	Mr C Higgs / Mrs Ford
7/8	Mrs Goodman/ Mr Kemp
14/15	Mr Bystra/ Mrs Parker
21/22	Mrs Curnow/ Caroline Lane
28/29	Mr A Ford/ Mr C Higgs

Flowers

31/1	No flowers
7/8	Easter
14/15	Easter
21/22	Donated
28/29	Mrs A Goodman

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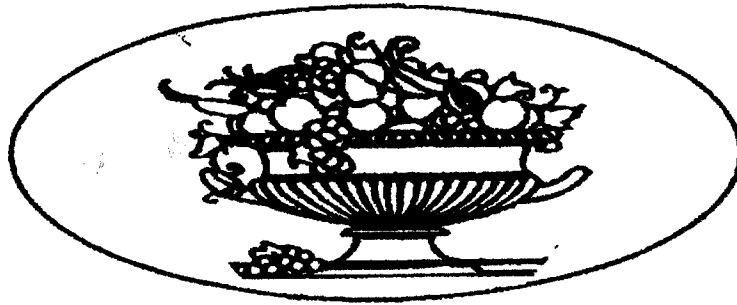
jim@mtsfc.co.uk

SERVICES FOR APRIL 2007

*Aston Abbotts – St James; Cublington – St Nicholas;
Wing – All Saints; Wingrave – St Peter & St Paul*

SUNDAY 1ST <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Aston Abbotts	10.00	Morning Prayer
	Cublington	08.45	Holy Communion
	Wing	08.00 10.00	Holy Communion Procession & Holy Communion <i>from Lych Gate</i>
	Wingrave	10.00	Procession & Family Service <i>from Twelve Leys</i>
MONDAY 2ND	Wingrave	19.00	Holy Week Reflections
TUESDAY 3RD	Wingrave	19.00	Holy Week Reflections <i>Methodist Chapel</i>
WEDNESDAY 4TH	Wingrave	19.00	Holy Week Reflections
MAUNDY THURSDAY 5TH	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	19.00	Holy Communion <i>followed by the Watch until 23.00</i>
GOOD FRIDAY 6TH	Aston Abbotts	14.00	Story of the Cross
	Cublington	12.00	Meditation on the Cross
	Wing	10.00 13.00	Sunday School Service Meditation on the Cross
	Wingrave	13.00 19.00	Meditation on the Cross Holy Week Reflections <i>Methodist Chapel</i>
EASTER SUNDAY 8TH	Aston Abbotts	09.15	Holy Communion
	Cublington	09.15	Family Communion
	Wing	09.15	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	10.45 18.00	Holy Communion Easter Praise
THURSDAY 13TH	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 15TH <i>2nd of Easter</i>	Aston Abbotts	18.00	Holy Communion
	Cublington	09.15	Holy Communion
	Wing	10.45	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	09.15	People's Praise
THURSDAY 19TH	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 22ND <i>3rd of Easter</i>	Aston Abbotts	18.00	Evensong
	Cublington	09.15	Family Service
	Wing	09.15	Holy Communion
	Wingrave	10.45	Holy Communion
THURSDAY 26TH	Wing	09.30	Holy Communion
Sunday 29th <i>4th of Easter</i>	Aston Abbotts	10.00	4 Parishes Holy Communion
	Wing	18.00	'Fragments': a time of praise

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Terri-Anne Perkins
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The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343	Parish Clerk	Kate Curry	681137
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690	Parish Council Leader	Peter Shorrock	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.

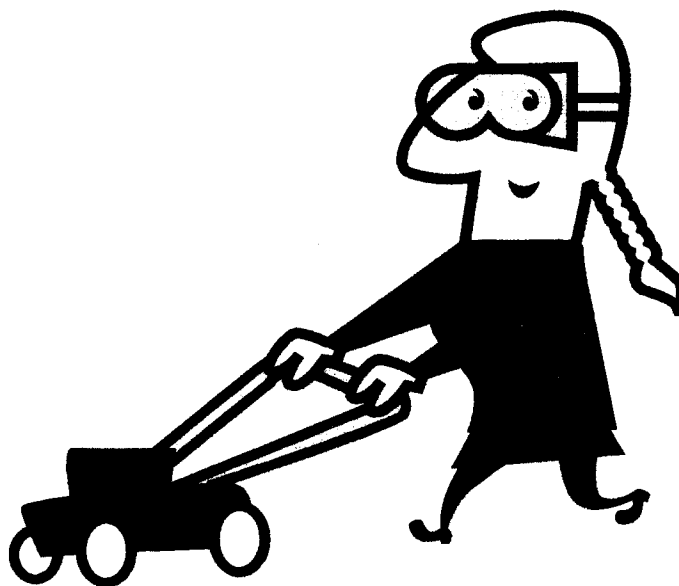
With our very own Nigel Palmer playing the organ, they are becoming increasingly popular, so if you would like to come along to these friendly and uplifting services, please make a note that the next three in 2007 are to be held on;-

April 22nd May 27th



MOWING ROTA

14th April	Geoff Curnow
21st	Andy Bystra
28th	Phil Spooner
5th May	Gordon Kemp



If you are unable to match the rota please change with a colleague

BOOK THESE DATES

Sat23/Sun24th June Flower Festival
St James Church to coincide with
Czech Event.

Sat21/Sun22nd July
Festival Weekend



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MONDAY IS QUIZ NIGHT

WEDNESDAY IS PATRICK'S AUTHENTIC CURRY NIGHT

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SATURDAY 12.00 TO 4.00 & 6.30 TO 9.30

SUNDAY 12.00 TO 4.00



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What's On In April

Wednesday 4th	Parish Council Meeting 8pm	Church Room
Thursday 5th	Coffee/ Shop 10 -12noon	Church Room
	Bingo 7.30pm	Church Room
Friday 6th	Good Friday Hot cross buns! Story of the Cross 2pm	St James Church
Sunday 8th	Easter Day Parish communion 9.15pm	St James Church
Thursday 12th	Coffee/Shop 10 - 12noon	Church Room
	Ladies Club 2.15	Church Room
	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room
Saturday 14th	Race Night 8pm	Church Room
Monday 16th	Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting	
	To Elect Churchwardens 7pm	Church Room
Wednesday 18th	Annual Parish Meeting 8pm	St James Church
Thursday 19th	Coffee/Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
Saturday 21st	British Legion Bingo 7.30pm	Church Room
Sunday 22nd	Evensong 6pm	St James Church
Thursday 29th	Coffee/Shop 10.30 - 12noon	Church Room
Sunday 25th	Evensong 6pm	St James Church
Thursday 26th	Coffee/Shop 10-12noon	Church Room
	Ladies Club 2.15pm	Church Room
	Whist Drive 7.30pm	Church Room
Sunday 29th	Pony - Dog Show Gundog Scurry Open 10am	
	Willowbrook Farm Whitchurch Road Cublington	

Address

Please note that all submissions for the Chronicle should be sent to John Hardcastle, Marloes, Lines Hill, Aston Abbots, 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

630 Club

Meets every Saturday in The Old Oak at 6.30pm.

New members very welcome. Contact Andy Bystra if you need an introduction.

NOTICE

The Trustees of the Church Room are endeavouring to spend quite a sum of money to improve facilities at the Church room (ie disabled toilet, improved kitchen, and ramp) and have therefore reluctantly had to revise letting charges as follows.

The £5 per hour to residents will be Unchanged

The £10 per hour to non residents will now be £15 per hour

There will now be a preparation and clearance charge for parties, weddings, carabets etc of an hourly rate. These new charges come into effect 1st May

Colin Higgs

Two Eskimos sitting in their boat were chilly; but when they lit a fire in the boat, it sank, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it.

Two boll weevils grew up in Cornwall. One went to Hollywood and became a famous actor. The other stayed behind, drove a tractor and never amounted to much. The second one, naturally, became known as the lesser of two weevils.

A three-legged dog walked into a saloon in the Old West. He sidled up to the bar and announced, "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."

(these are the sort of jokes loved by 630iers)Ed

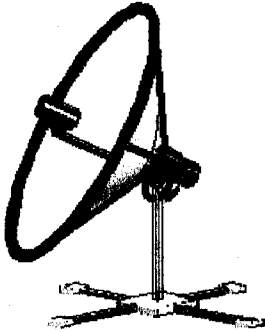


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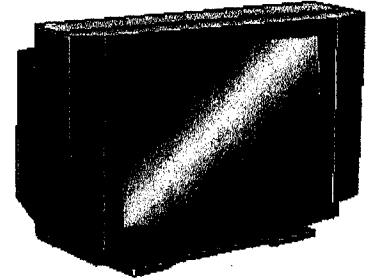
AEG Halogen Hob top for electric cooker, excellent condition £30 ono Jane Shilton leather handbag, camel, new cost £49.99, for sale £25 details 680474

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The Defloration of Neil Chesher

nirvana [nir-vah-nuh]

noun

1. Hinduism Emancipation from ignorance and the extinction of all attachment.
2. A place or state characterized by freedom from or oblivion to pain, worry, and the external world.
3. **An ideal condition of peace, harmony, stability, or joy.**

Throughout our lives many of us grapple with the growing suspicion that there may be more to life and, without really knowing what we are looking for, strive to find that extra something. For some it may be spiritual, for others possibly physical, even carnal.

We never know quite what it is we are looking for. We never know when we are going to find it. We never know just where we will be when the final attainment takes place.

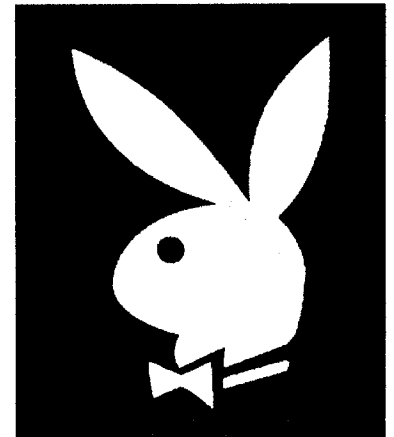
For Neil Chesher, that place was the Fornovivo restaurant in Tring.

As a group of us finished a very pleasant Italian meal we became aware of a party on a nearby table. A French lady dressed as a Playboy bunnygirl, complete with bunny ears and carrying a large whip, particularly attracted Neil's attention. Unable to contain himself, Neil embarked upon some cheeky banter. Before long the bunnygirl angrily waved her whip at Neil and threatened in her charming French accent, "I will wipe you!" Helpfully some of us attempted to explain that the English word was "whip", not "wipe", but Neil enthusiastically offered up his backside. The enraged bunnygirl stormed over to us. Realising that urgent assistance was required, John Whyte and I each grabbed one of Neil's arms and pinned him face down on an unoccupied table.

And as Neil was held spread-eagled across the restaurant table, having his backside "wiped" by a blond French lady wearing a bunny-girl outfit and high heels, a huge smile of blissful gratification spread from ear to ear.

Neil Chesher had finally found Nirvana.

~ Phil Spooner



**Dave Lewis
returns to the
back page
next month**

Flackwell Electronics - Purveyors of plasma screens to the gentry