

THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE ~ Issue 285 ~ January 2009



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Email : editor@aachronicle.co.uk

Editorial

I'm writing this editorial just before Christmas. Judy and I are spending Christmas Day with one of our sons (and our grandson) and most of our family and our daughter-in-law's family - a large gathering. Boxing Day will be spent in a pub near Banbury that is run by a very good friend's son. Another gathering of huge proportions.

All this festivity is in conflict with my New Year Resolution to loose weight and get fitter - this will be so that there is a chance that I will survive a planned adventure to Peru and the Galapagos Islands. Perhaps my golf will also improve - seems to be in gradual decline at the moment.

Have managed to get my vegetable patch in good order - its just bare earth at the moment but the soil is free of weeds and groaning with manure. The cold weather of late has worked wonders; the clods of soil are now wonderfully friable and just waiting to be raked into perfect seed beds. Bring on Spring, lighter mornings and some sunshine.

Hopefully the Village Plan questionnaire will accompany this January issue. Do take the time and effort to respond.

During the cold weather Lines Hill and Moat Lane were very treacherous - it is very surprising that these roads are not gritted. They are used by buses and a school bus, a requirement for them to qualify for gritting. It seems wrong policy to wait for an accident to happen before the mindset of our Council can be changed. This is repeated with the decision to turn off the lights at the Wingrave crossroad - to reduce the carbon footprint. This is such an awkward junction to negotiate. The lights were installed originally after a long campaign following some serious accidents. Hopefully the Council's decision can be reversed/revisted.

This will be last edition of the Chronicle produced on our gas-fired PC as we are upgrading to an electric one; so I will be on a new learning curve. Wish me luck - not sure what the February edition will look like. Time will tell.

I trust you all had a happy Christmas and I do wish the coming year does not prove to be the pessimistic time the pundits are forecasting.

John Hardcastle

In This Issue

Allotment Diary

- *Crossword*
- *What's on in January*
- *Countryside Matters*
- *Tiger Trail*

If you have a photo of our village you'd like to submit for the front cover then please email the Ed with a copy. There must be someone out there with a camera? All last year not one was submitted. Please have a go. Contrasty photos are best - our printing facilities are limited.

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 285

January 2009

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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)...

...Can you afford not to be in?

Copy date for the next issue is:

Friday 23rd January 2009

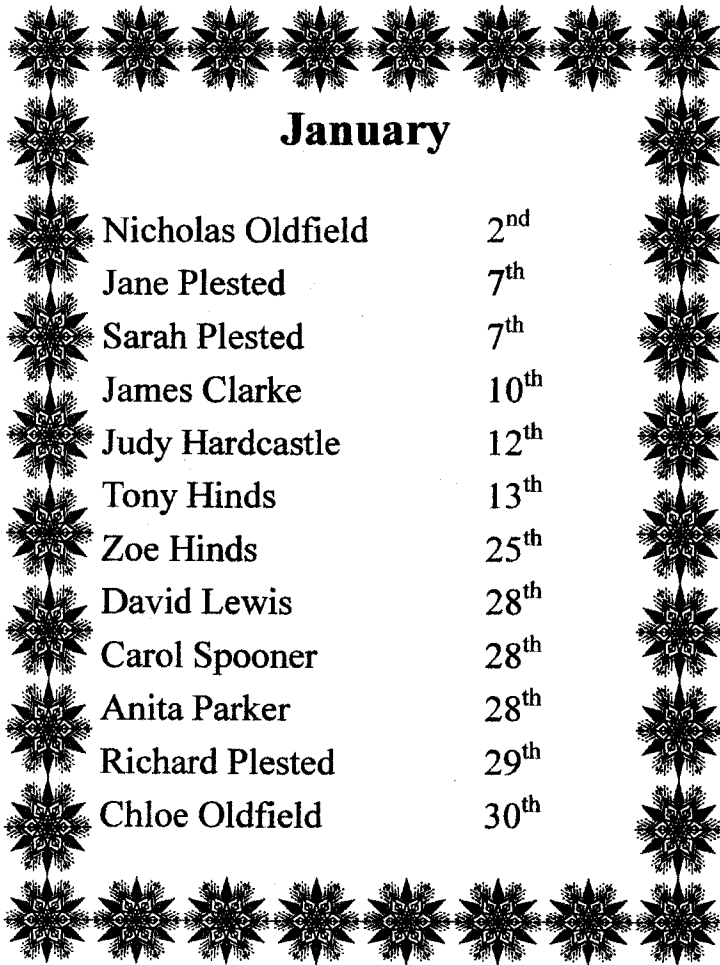
Please pass items to John Hardcastle at Marloes on Lines Hill or to a member of the Production Team as early as possible.

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



January



| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Nicholas Oldfield | 2 nd |
| Jane Plested | 7 th |
| Sarah Plested | 7 th |
| James Clarke | 10 th |
| Judy Hardcastle | 12 th |
| Tony Hinds | 13 th |
| Zoe Hinds | 25 th |
| David Lewis | 28 th |
| Carol Spooner | 28 th |
| Anita Parker | 28 th |
| Richard Plested | 29 th |
| Chloe Oldfield | 30 th |

Get well to Christine Scott who has been in the wars again and had to spend some time in Milton Keynes hospital.

Get well also to Ivy Brandon who has been in Stoke Mandeville hospital.

Congratulations to Ian Judd on his engagement to Emma Crowley. It's going to be an expensive time in the Hinds household!

Four sheep were ushered up our drive last Sunday by a man in a van who had found them wandering in the road. Is anyone missing 4 sheep? Peter Knight now has charge of them if anyone wants to claim them.

Beware of clicking on revyu.com and passing it on to your friends, you may end up getting barred from your local pub!

Pleased to report that Steve (Wingrave Post Office & Stores) has successfully had treatment in hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Chronicle distributors

Andy Bystra would like to thank all those who turn out, come rain or shine, to distribute the Chronicle each month.

Huge thanks therefore to:- Carol & Phil Spooner, Rod & Val Rothero; Ivan & Liz Greenaway, Harry & Charlie Bystra, Andy & Shirley Ford, George Fox, Caroline Lane, Margaret & Tony Hinds

And on behalf of Ed and all Chronicle readers our thanks too!

I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalogue: - 'No good in a bed, but fine against a wall.' - Eleanor Roosevelt

THE FRIENDS OF WHITCHURCH SURGERY

We would like to thank everyone who came and supported our very successful Raffle Draw and Coffee Morning held on Saturday, 29th November at the Surgery. We gained the excellent sum of £356 for our funds.

Don't forget to tell us about your birthdays, anniversaries, etc, so that we can send you a greeting in the Gossip

Dear Ed

One of the advantageous side-effects of the credit crunch is that I have been able to attend the coffee mornings held in the Parish Room every Thursday. The absence of the shop over the last few months has not affected attendances adversely, and there are about a couple of dozen of us villagers who turn up regularly for a drink, a cake and a gossip.

On the Thursday before Christmas, we were treated to a splendid traditional Christmas lunch – roast turkey, gammon, sausage, roast potatoes, Brussels sprouts and carrots, followed by Christmas pudding and mince pie with custard. All this was impeccably prepared and served by April, Rita, Caroline and Margaret, and I am sure I speak for all the regulars in offering them a great big 'thank you' for all their efforts, not just last week but throughout the year

Regards *Mike Wenble*

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WINGRAVE CROSSROAD LIGHTING

The Wingrave with Rowsham Communique (December Edition) reported that, at their Parish Council held on 11th November, 'Councillor Cooper reported that the wishes of Aston Abbots and Wingrave and Rowsham Councils each to keep two lights working at the A418 crossroads had been rejected by Bucks County Council (BCC). BCC wanted to keep to the three year trial of switching off lights - and would not agree to parishes keeping some lights on'. Aston Abbots Parish Council is continuing to try and get BCC's decision changed

This poem was posted through my letterbox in December before Christmas - I presume it was intended for publication in the Chronicle. *Ed*

The window
Tells you so very much
The things you see
The things you touch
The fluffy clouds in the sky
Silently slowly passing by
The trees, their shapes & their
~~The sun at day the moon~~ height
at night
People walking, some fast some
The dullness of rain the 'slow'
The flowers, in the gardens
brightness of snow
The cows chewing grass
The hourly buses driving past
Yes it's amazing what you
can see
come sit, at my window and
look out with me.

Sandy Tippins

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

What happens if you play table-tennis with a bad egg?

First it goes ping - then it goes pong!

What do you call just married spiders?

Newly-webs.

What happened when the Ice Monster ate curry?

He blew his cool.

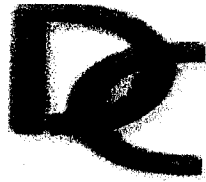
What did the shy pebble say?

I wish I was a little bolder.

How do you save meatballs from drowning?

Put them in gravy boats.

Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year. - Victor Borge



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WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD!

2009 IS MARSWORTH FLOWER FESTIVAL YEAR

2009 sees the return of the popular biennial Flower Festival at All Saints Church, Marsworth, which this year is entitled "What a Wonderful World". In the lead up to the event itself, which takes place from Friday 28th to Monday 31st August, the Marsworth Flower Festival Committee has arranged a series of events to help raise funds to ensure that the 2009 festival is one to remember:

- Come and join us for a delightful evening of song and celebration on Saturday 14th February at All Saints Church: A "Music for Valentine's Night" Concert with the Bedfordshire Police Choir. Starting at 7.30pm, canapés and a glass of wine are included in the ticket price of £10. Tickets are available from Deborah Hale, 12 High Street, Cheddington (01296 668114) and Ken Longhurst, 74 Vicarage Road, Marsworth (01296 660711).
- Enjoy lunch followed by an afternoon of Chicago Bridge, Marsworth Millennium Hall Thursday 19th February 2009, £12.50 per player. Book your places with Catherine Bushell (01442 822043) or Betty Longhurst (01296 660711).
- We've got a fantastic Music Quiz lined up for Saturday 21st March at Marsworth Millennium Hall. Come and test your knowledge of pop music from the Sixties, Seventies, Eighties and Nineties!
- Neil Gurney will present an evening of expert flower arranging in his own inimitable style at Marsworth Millennium Hall on Monday 27th April.
- Our flowery theme is continued with Gill and John White's amazing plant sale on Saturday 23rd May at Horseshoe Cottage, Church Lane, Marsworth.

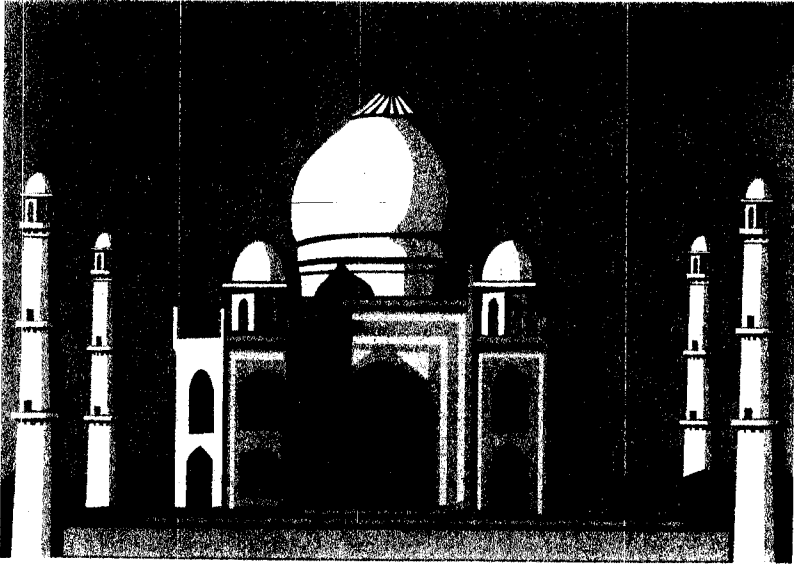
If you feel you would like to become involved with next year's Flower Festival in any way, please contact Ken Longhurst.

The 2009 Marsworth Flower Festival Committee.

TIGER TRAIL

Our recent trip to India was certainly a memorable one. Upon arrival at the airport we were met by a smiling guide, who cheerfully informed us that the three things you need when driving in India, were, good brakes, a good horn and good luck! Our driver definitely needed all of them. The tour began in Delhi. Comfortably ensconced in our air-conditioned coach, we viewed the morbidly fascinating scenes of abject poverty and squalor. People worked, bathed, shaved, socialised, and in short, lived and some probably died on the streets. Nothing could have prepared us for the street life of the "Pink City" of Jaipur. It is a seething mass of humanity. Every imaginable kind of vehicle, cars, trucks, tractors, tuk-tuks, coaches and motor-bikes, shared the roads with camels, monkeys, pigs, goats, dogs, cows and even gaily-painted elephants! I forgot to mention rickshaws. We took a ride in one around the city, and it was a hair raising, experience. Some motor-bikes accommodated families of up to five; the women rode sidesaddle, their vibrantly beautiful jewelled saris glittering in the sunlight. Numerous barrows and stalls overflowed with colourful vegetables, fruits and nuts. It was an unforgettable experience.

Next stop was the tiger reserve. There are only about thirty-five tigers in this reserve, so a sighting is rare. After many hours the sight of a tigress finally rewarded us. She lay on her back with all four feet in the air, just like a contented pet cat! Our second visit resulted in the sighting of a young male tiger, high up in the forest undergrowth, his massive head and shoulders quite motionless. He calmly surveyed the group of awe-stricken tourists; then rose lazily, bored of the proceedings and ambled off into the vegetation. We felt very privileged to have seen tigers in their natural habitat. Weary but triumphant we left the forest to the tigers.



On to the Taj Mahal, which really defies description. It took twenty-two years and up to one hundred thousand workers to create this magnificent monument. It was built in memory of the beloved wife of Emperor Shah Jahan; her dying request was for him to build an incomparable monument over her grave in her memory. No finer labour of love can surely exist.

Our last stop was Kerala, almost as far south as you can go. Our hotel consisted of about sixty bungalows modelled on a traditional fisherman's dwellings. Each one was thatched with coconut leaves, the bathroom

was partly open air, and if you sat in the shower tray you could see the palm trees swaying above you! It was set in twenty-five acres of palm groves and was totally "eco" friendly; everything was organic, biodegradable, solar-powered, and reusable wherever possible. Even the envelopes, carrier and laundry bags were made of recycled newspaper. Kerala is laced with verdant backwaters and a pleasant morning was spent cruising these waters, observing the fascinating life of the river people. One day we cycled to a nearby village. There were no other westerners in sight, and we were viewed with amazement and amusement. The meandering mud roads led us past paddy fields, and remote primitive dwellings and farmsteads. The hotel gardens led down to the almost deserted, white sand, palm fringed beach that bordered the Arabian Sea. Either side of the hotel there were fishing villages, and we watched the boats come ashore, disgorging their catch; the nets glistening like dew-strung cobwebs in the sunlight. On our last evening as we watched the sun set on the beach, we promised ourselves that we must surely return to India one day. *Carol Spooner*

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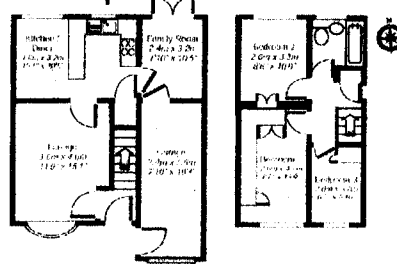
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1st Wingrave Scout Group

Despite the awful weather, supporters joined us on Saturday 13th December for our annual fundraiser. We managed to raise an amazing £745 for our local Scout Group and would like to thank all those villagers who made donations or supported us on the day.

Are you interested in the 10 to 14 year olds in your village and what they get up to of an evening? We are looking for someone to take on the role of Scout Leader within the Wingrave Scout Group. We have a team of willing helpers waiting in the wings to help you every week. During the past year, our older Cub Scouts have had to find places in adjacent villages to carry on their Scout training which means we are losing our young people away from the village group.

The 1st Wingrave Scout Group serves the villages of Wingrave, Cublington, Aston Abbotts and Rowsham and comprises over 50 boys and girls from the villages. Scouting is the biggest youth organisation in the world, so if you wish to be part of it, please get in touch with Jeff Polard, Group Scout Leader on 01296 625454 for further information. Full support and training will be given.

We are also looking for boys and girls to swell our Beaver and Cub Scout numbers. For details of Beaver Scouts contact Sue Ascott on 01296 397968 and for Cub Scouts contact Nicki Reeve on 01296 681372.

NEW YEAR REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

NORMAL COLLECTION DAY

Thursday 1st January
Thursday 8th January
Thursday 15th January

REVISED COLLECTION DAY

Monday 5th January
Saturday 10th January
Friday 16th January

Normal Collections resume Monday 19th January

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you. - Winston Churchill



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Secure your home

Leave a light on!

As winter approaches and the nights draw in, it's an ideal time to look at your home security. If you're not at home during the hours of darkness you may be at an increased risk of burglary.

If no light is on in your home, curtains are not drawn, and no car is in the drive, it's an obvious sign to an opportunist burglar that no-one is in. At this time of the year more than any other it pays to secure your home. There are a number of simple and free ways to do this, all of which will help reduce the chance of your home being the next target. So here's what to do:

- Contact AVDC or Thames Valley Police for a free 24 hour segment timer. The timer can be used with a lamp, radio or TV to give the impression that someone's home. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb.
- Contact AVDC or Thames Valley Police for a free property marking kit. Property marking is a simple, quick, and free way of making your valuables more secure and less desirable to thieves.
- Register your valuables on www.immobilise.com. It's free and takes just a few minutes and if your valuables are stolen, will allow you to tell the police, your insurer, and the second-hand trade to assist in recovering your property and catch the thief.

**See also page 19
and page 29 for telephone numbers**

Money can't buy you happiness. But it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery. - Spike Milligan



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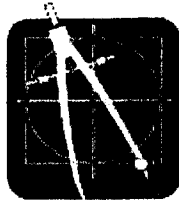
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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Wednesday 3rd December 2008

Present: - Cllrs. C Higgs, D Dicken, K Curry, J Hardcastle, P Shorrocks, R Clarke and P Bruton (Clerk).
Apologies had been received from A Stefanczyk.
District Councillor P Cooper

The Clerk had received a request from Bucks CC for venues that may be used as information points. He was advised to notify them that the Church Rooms could be offered as suitable place, however they should be advised that the facility was not always available.

It was reported during a meeting with a surveyor at the Church rooms it had been identified that there was no insulation in the roof and signs of woodworm infestation. The Clerk also advised BCC had confirmed that a disabled entrance ramp would meet the improvement criteria specified in the S106 funding documents. After discussion on various potential expenditure it was decided that quotations for the options would be obtained and the Clerk would investigate whether a Grant could be obtained in respect of the insulation as well as clarifying BCC's position should we wish to allocate further monies to replacement tables and chairs.

Council was updated on a recent minor amendment in respect of the planning application for an Agricultural Dwelling – New Field Off Moat Lane.

It was reported that completion of the Village Plan questionnaire to be circulated to Villagers was anticipated by the end of the year. It was felt that the item should be removed from future Agenda's and the Clerk would be notified when the item required inclusion.

The article in the Chronicle requesting volunteers for a possible Speedwatch campaign had so far produced no response. It was also reported that there had been no contact following the last NAG meeting. It was noted that the matter would be raised by our representative at the forthcoming Local Area Forum.

The County Council is currently reviewing the Speed limit along the A418 in our Parish. The details of the proposals were discussed and they appeared to indicate that a 30mph limit would be introduced through Bierton, National speed limit to Rowsham, 40mph and traffic calming through Rowsham (30mph side streets), then reverting to the National speed limit through to Wing. All found the supporting documents confusing and the Clerk would seek to obtain clarification on certain points in order that the matter could be discussed further and a response made following Council's next meeting.

There was currently nothing further to report on the matter of the drainage of surface water from the Hunters Way development, however concern was expressed over the alleged breach of approved details and as we were awaiting a response from AVDC the item would be included on next month's Agenda.

It was noted that we had been refused permission to adopt 2 streetlights at Wingrave Crossroads as BCC were concerned that this would set a precedent. There was disappointment at this decision and it was suggested that as the area was within the Parish boundary we might be able to erect a streetlight of our own. This would be investigated further as well as looking at other potential solutions. There was nothing to report on the height of trees affecting some streetlights.

Councillor Cooper reported that the current indications were that Council tax would rise by 2% next year although this had yet to be finalised.

The Clerk advised he had received a letter from BCC regarding the possibility of a phased footpath to Wingrave Crossroads utilising funding from the Local Area Forum. It was AGREED we should bid for a phased scheme and the necessary application made.

The monthly Recreation Ground inspection had been carried out and there was nothing to report.

We were still awaiting the final quotation in respect of the tree overgrowth on the Recreation Ground.

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th January 2009 at 20.00 in the Church Rooms.

THINKING ABOUT YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAY THIS YEAR, BUT FEELING THE PINCH, WHAT WITH THE BILLS GOING UP AT HOME, AND A HOLIDAY ABROAD WILL COST EVEN MORE WITH THE DIRE EURO EXCHANGE RATE.....

THEN WHY NOT, HOLIDAY IN CORNWALL THIS YEAR... THE WEATHER IS EXPECTED TO BE ONE OF THE HOTTEST... AND JUDGING BY MAY'S SUNSHINE, THE FORECAST COULD WELL BE RIGHT!

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THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

Wingrave & District
Branch

Is there anyone reading this who would be interested in joining and taking an active role in Wingrave & District Branch of The Royal British Legion?

We are sad to report that our Branch of the Royal British Legion is in imminent danger of folding.

Unfortunately our local Branch is suffering from the problem of a declining membership, which resulted in our inability to fill two essential posts in the Branch at our recent Annual General Meeting.

Primarily this is due to a variety of pressures, which include age, health, time and a reduced number of active members covering more roles.

It has been reported that a similar problem has already resulted in the closure of a number of other small branches in the County this year.

We do not want our branch to add to the number, and will not give up without a struggle.

However, time is of the essence.

The branch cannot continue for long as it is, and members feel we have possibly until April 09 to try to recruit the posts and find new members.

If anyone feels they may be interested in helping they can contact either Alan Rawlings (Tel:01296 681594) or John Dixon (Tel:01296 681626), who will be happy to discuss what is involved.

POPPY APPEAL 2008

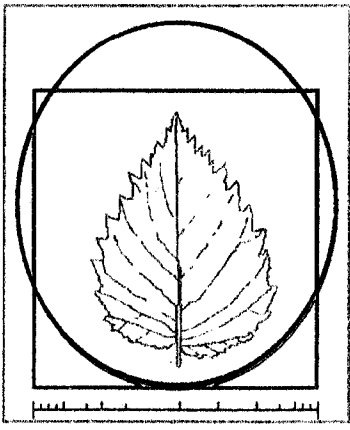
The collections in Aston Abbots came to £1,015.25

The area achieved a total of £2,589.07

Many thanks to all those who supported this worthy cause.

The next branch meeting will be held at the Rose & Crown, Wingrave at 8pm on Wednesday, 11 February 2009

***A Rawlings PAO*
Wingrave & District Branch
The Royal British Legion**



TREE STRATEGIES

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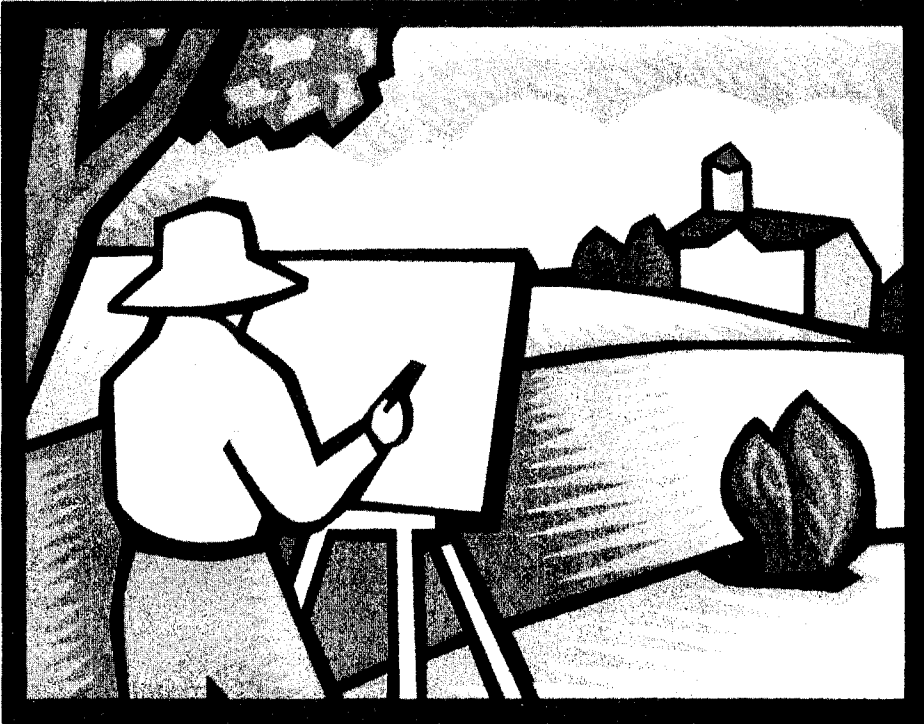
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WEEDON ART GROUP

If you would like to join a group of enthusiastic artists then contact C MacDonald on 641039.



The group meet every week on Thursday afternoons between 2-4pm in Weedon Old School Room. Once every other week a tutor attends to give advice and encouragement. We use all medias except oils. The group is looking for new members. Currently we have 4 or 5 regulars, 4 or 5 who come frequently and 1 or 2 occasional visitors. We are an informal group of people from local villages and of various capabilities. For each session a nominal charge of £3.50 is made.

**You lovers of the English language might enjoy this . . .
There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is "UP."**

It's easy to understand UP , meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP? At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends. And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car. At other times the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special.

And this UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP . We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP .

When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP.

When it doesn't rain for a while, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so..... Time to shut UP !

Oh...one more thing: What is the first thing you do in the morning & the last thing you do at night? U-P

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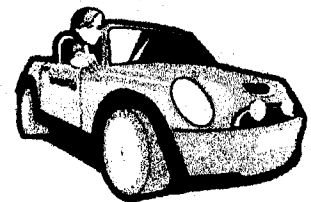
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|-----------|------------------|
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| Tuesday | 9:00am - 8:00pm |
| Wednesday | 9:00am - 6:00pm |
| Thursday | 9:00am - 8:00pm |
| Friday | 9:00am - 6:00pm |
| Saturday | 9:00am - 6:00pm |
| Sunday | CLOSED |

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www.4-beauty.com



- Keep valuables out of sight. Most theft is opportunist, a thief will target your home because there is a visible opportunity to gain something. This may be because your valuables are on view, a laptop on your dining table or a camera on the window sill. Remove the goods and you'll reduce the risk.
- Lock your doors and windows. Approximately 25% of burglars gain entry through an unlocked door or window. Whether you're at home or out and about you should lock your doors and windows. If you have UPVC doors, make sure they're double locked – you need to lift the handle and turn the key to securely lock a UPVC door.
- Neighbourhood watch is not about being a nosey neighbour, it is a great way of looking out for others in your community. As well as being vigilant to suspicious people, Neighbourhood Watch now offers a Community Messaging facility. This messaging service will send regular updates on crime and disorder in your area to your email account. Visit www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org for further information.
- If your keys are on a table in your hallway a burglar may not even need to break in, it's not uncommon for a thief to use a fishing rod to reach through the letterbox to get your car keys. This is an ideal opportunity for a thief, don't make it easy for them.
- Contact the Home Service scheme, AVDC's free home security improvement service for over 60's. The Home Service provides window and door locks, door chains and other security measures to keep you safe, it's all fitted for free by the Handyman at a time that's convenient to you.
- Look out for your elderly family members and neighbours. Unscrupulous individuals will target the most vulnerable people in your community. Distraction burglary can be a problem, particularly for the more vulnerable people so pass on the message to STOP, CHAIN and CHECK before opening a door. Get a window sticker for no doorstep sales and your STOP, CHAIN, CHECK sticker from crime reduction.



Operation Accurist

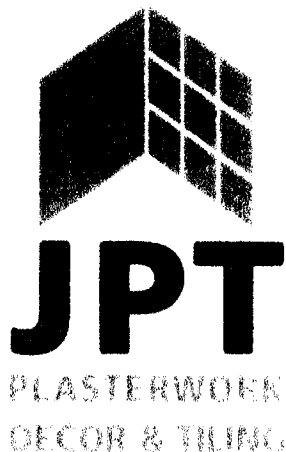
As the nights draw in is your home secure?

www.thamesvalley.police.uk/reduction

See page 29 for tel numbers



I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back. - Zsa Zsa Gabor



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ALLOTMENT DIARY

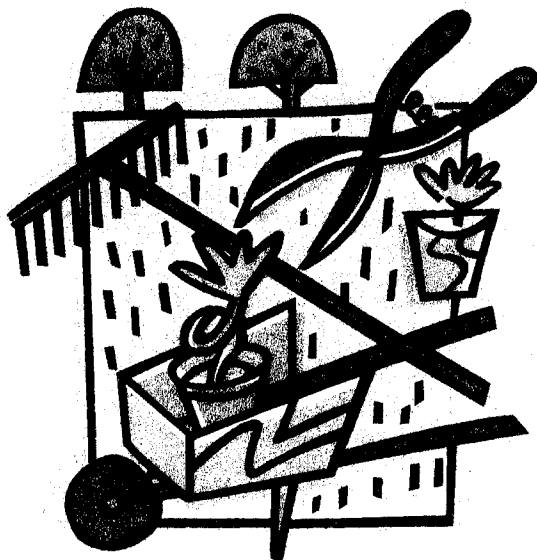
I was reading an item in my paper this morning about an England rugby player, Matthew Tait, who is suffering from sciatica, and while he is receiving treatment for this – and is unable to play rugby – has taken up cultivating a vegetable patch in his back garden. I felt a bond of kinship with him, until I read on, and found he was quoted as saying “Sciatica and a veg. patch: all I need now is an allotment and a whippet, and I’ll be a proper old man”. I’ve now gone right off him!

Now is not the time to be extolling the virtues of gardening. Therapeutic? Invigorating? Good for the soul? You must be kidding! It is cold and windy and frequently wet. The ground is either so hard you can’t stick a spade in it, or it’s mushy and clogging! And practically everything is dead – even most of the weeds.

Who can think of spring in conditions like this? Well, gardeners can - and do. You always have to look to the future; to have a feeling for the rhythm of life. To quote from an article I read recently, and which I think puts it perfectly “Gardening forces optimism: without hope you would never plant a seed”. Despite the problems that have beset your crops this year, you always expect that next year will be different, and spend happy hours browsing through gardening catalogues or websites

Reverting to actual allotment news, rather than these musings, I regret to say that my stored maincrop potatoes are showing signs of having been affected by blight for the second year running. Clearly the infestation has not been anything like as bad as in 2007, but it is there nevertheless – telltale brown streaks when one cuts the tubers open, which, if the potatoes are stored long enough will make them turn into mush. A few have already done so, and they can quickly be identified by the white spores on the outside of the tuber, looking rather like salt crystals. I hope those of you who grow your own potatoes have not been similarly afflicted.

The Times has been doing a series of articles of various charities during the run-up to Christmas, and one of these charities is an organisation called “Thrive”, which provides therapeutic gardening for people with special needs, or those who have become disabled through an accident or illness. They have been particularly successful with teenagers, who have not only become accomplished gardeners, but have also gained in self-confidence as well. Thrive has also provided a purpose in life for men and women who have suddenly lost their sight, who enjoy getting their hands dirty in a garden, and managing to produce their own vegetables despite the obvious problems of gardening with such a disadvantage. Some tasks are beyond them – distinguishing small weeds from seedlings for instance (I have this problem as well, and I have perfect sight!); and hand tools are easily mislaid. However there is a small team of sighted volunteers who help out with the tricky jobs, and children from a local school are willing helpers. I hope the project prospers.



My very best wishes to all my readers for the coming year, and may all your crops be large and the vegetables tasty!

Peter Shorrock

P S While walking my dogs in the field behind The Abbey a few weeks ago, I found a dark red anorak hood, probably dropped by another dog-walker. If the person who has lost it should read this, please contact me on 681260, and I’ll be delighted to return it.

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ASTON ABBOTTS & CUBLINGTON LADIES CLUB

The Aston Abbots and Cublington Ladies Club meets twice a month in the Church Room, Aston Abbots. All ladies from Aston Abbots and Cublington are very welcome. Please contact Shirley Ford



27th Nov. 14 were present at today's meeting. The minutes were read, signed and apologies received from 6 of our members who were unwell. Members then chose readers and the carols to be sung at our forthcoming service on Thursday the 11th December. It was agreed the Carol service would be followed by teas in the church room.

Today we enjoyed an hour of 'wartime' poetry and songs presented by an old friend of the club, Lindsey Stafford Smith. She was thanked by June Brine and afterwards we enjoyed tea served by Carol Maurice, Avril Bradley Davis and Audrey Stephenson.

June Loader won the raffle.

11th Dec. We held our annual Carol service in St James Church, Aston Abbots today. The Rev. Siv Tunnicliffe took the service during which readings were given by Shirley Ford, June Brine, April Curnow, and Carol Maurice. Evelyn Griffiths kindly played the organ for us during the singing of five well known carols. The Aston Abbots members provided teas which were served in the church room. A pleasant afternoon was 'rounded off with every member going home with a Christmas gift.

Shirley Ford

Christingle, christmas trees, and carols

On Sunday 21st December, our bell ringers loudly and joyously heralded that this popular family Christmas Service was about to commence in our Church.

As the congregation arrived, they found that unusually, the church had been decorated with Christmas trees instead of flowers. Village organizations and individual families had all contributed and included were a Victorian Christmas, the first decorated tree, a child's view', the bell ringers tree and many others; all brilliantly giving the church a very festive 'feel'.

Those who had participated had come up with some good ideas and admitted to having enjoyed designing and setting them up so hopefully this theme can be 'built on' next year.

This particular service is always popular and this year was no exception. It was very nice to see the church absolutely full with village families as well as visitors from outside.

It proved to be a very happy service. Michelle conducted it and of course there were lots of children, most of whom took part. Charlie, Jack and Annie Copping added greatly to the atmosphere of the occasion, having dressed respectively as shepherds and an angel and they took a key role in a tableau while 'Away in a manger' was sung. Harry Bystra assisted the vicar in making a huge 'demonstration' christingle.

The giving and lighting of christingles was in many respects the central part of the service and it was a delight to see all the children taking part. With the church lights dimmed, the children holding their christingles, candles lit, a carol was sung. It was quite delightful.

Accompanied by the Rowsham and Wingrave brass band it was not too difficult for even the most reticent of us to make a decent 'fist' of singing carols.



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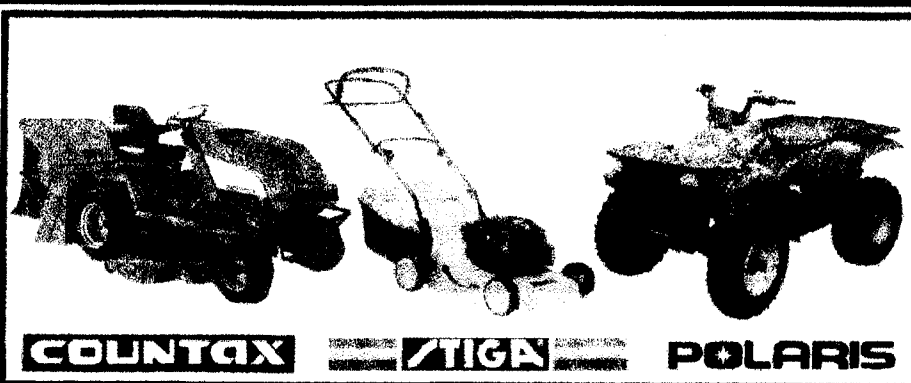
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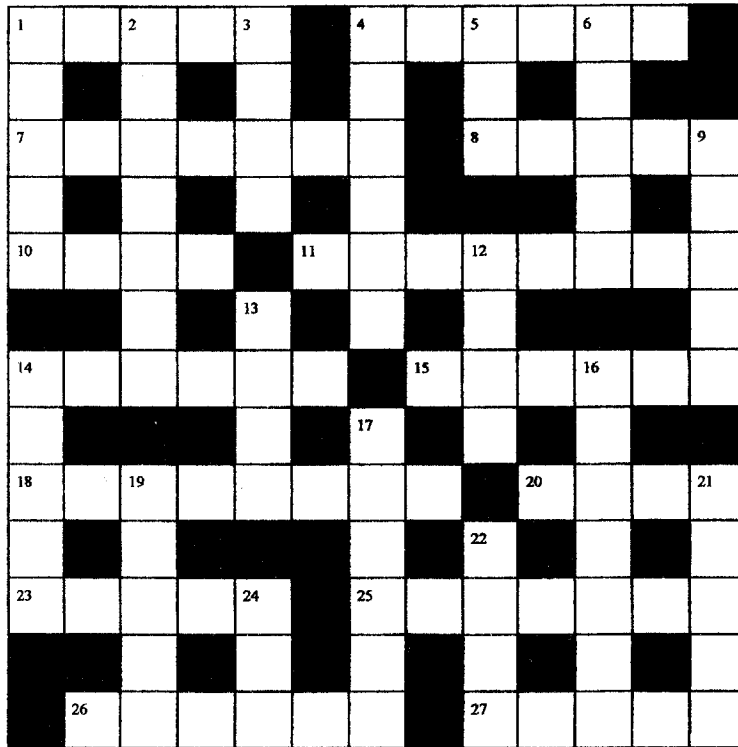


ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



The Chronicle Crossword

JANUARY 2009



DECEMBER ANSWERS

ACROSS

1 Stray 4 Snatch 7 Orleans
8 Knack 10 Xmas
11 Jeopardy 14 Needle
15 Anorak 18 Bowsprit
20 Omit 23 Ended 25 Abreast
26 Shaded 27 Wheel

DOWN

1 Sioux 2 Release 3 Yuan
4 Sussex 5 Ask 6 Chair
9 Kayak 12 Penn 13 Flop
14 Noble 16 Rummage
17 Wizard 19 Width
21 Total 22 Crew 24 DVD

ACROSS

1 One of the Seven dwarfs (5)
4 Small boat (6)
7 What we live in (7)
8 Used on a car (5)
10 Obligation to pay (4)
11 Gemstone (8)
14 Type of sport (6)
15 Travelling show (6)
18 American pavement (8)
20 Dry (4)
23 Type of duck (5)
25 The largest ocean (7)
26 Covered in beads (6)
27 Large (5)

DOWN

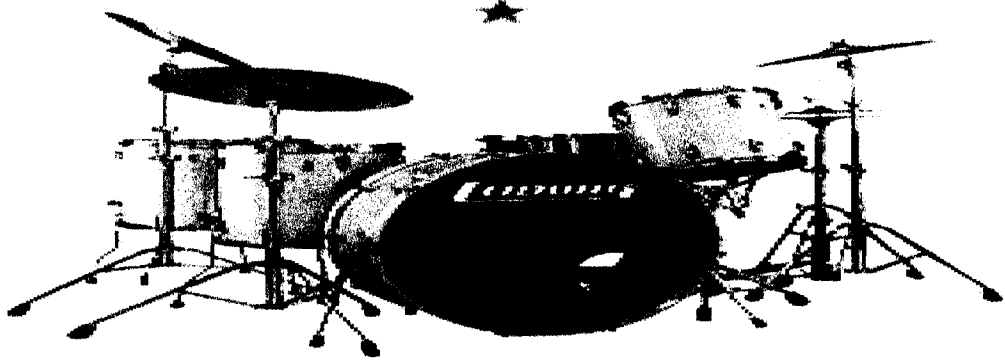
1 Boys name (5)
2 Gun emplacement (7)
3 See 6 down (4)
4 Wistful look (6)
5 See 6 down (3)
6 Compliments of the season (6)
9 Local tax (5)
12 Part of an animal (4)
13 Could fall this month (4)
14 Swiss city (5)
16 Caution (7)
17 Slanted (6)
19 Evade (5)
21 Rotting (5)
22 Covers a wound (4)
24 Colour (3)

Compiled by Rod Rothero

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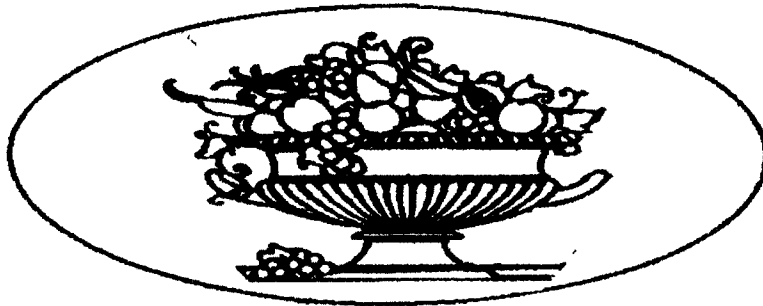
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SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING?

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors. .

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket. (Good thing he did that)

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

Now you know everything!

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury. - Groucho Marx

SHOP IN THE CHURCH ROOM

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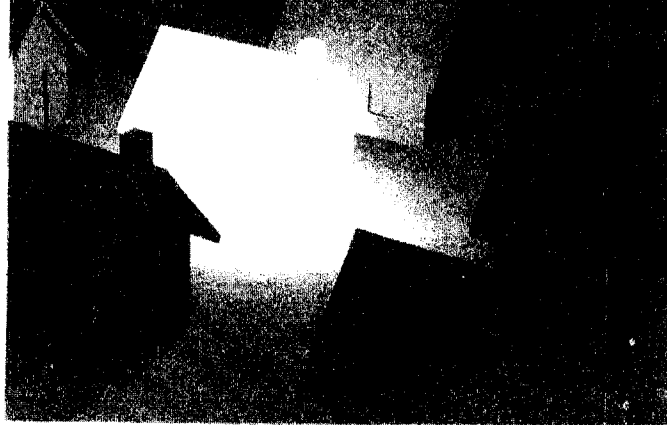
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As the nights draw in is your home secure?

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Contact community safety
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or Thames Valley Police
crime reduction on
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My wife has a slight impediment in her speech. Every now and then she stops to breathe. - Jimmy Durante

CHURCH ROOM BOOKINGS

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

Rates are as follows:

For Villagers:

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

For Non-Villagers:

£15 per hour (plus electricity)
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*There is also a preparation
and clearing away charge*

Rev. Michelle Morton 01525 240287

Ann Goodman 681763

April Curnow 681459

Shirley Ford 681865 - *Churchwarden*

Caroline Lane 681373

Colin Higgs 681343 - *Churchwarden*

Caroline Abel Smith - *Secretary*

John Abel Smith - *Treasurer*

Andy Bystra, Gordon Kemp and Colin Smart also attend meetings.

Parochial Church Council

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

PETER SHORROCK (Chairman)

Oak Farm House ~ 681260

PAUL BRUTON (Parish Clerk)

51 The Green - 682322

COLIN HIGGS

6 Wingrave Road ~ 681343

RICHARD CLARKE

Maplewood, The Green ~ 681286

DICKIE DICKEN

Norduck House ~ 688577

JUDY HARDCASTLE

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ANDY STEFANCZYK

73 The Green ~ 0774 2957684
(Street Lighting Officer)

KATE CURRY

2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane - 681137

District Councillor

PETER COOPER

Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham ~ 681250

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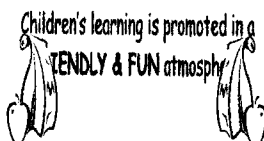
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Contact: Sally Ramsell - Pre-School Leader
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CAROL SINGING

On the evening of Mon. 22nd Dec. village carol singers met on The Green to bring a little 'Christmas cheer' and raise a few pounds towards the much needed and expensive church repairs. Accompanied by our Vicar, Michelle, they sang a wide selection of carols at various locations, where villagers donated a total of £200.00.

Of course, all this singing (they were at it for almost two hours), caused an epidemic of dry throats so they wisely ended up singing a few carols at the Royal Oak.

It certainly proved to be a good choice since in addition to being able to slake their thirsts, they found a supper had been provided. Terri and Garry had 'laid on' a nice selection of sandwiches and bowls of chips. Many thanks to all who gave donations and of course Terri and Garry for their hospitality.



Christmas Lunch – Thurs. 18th Dec.

April and Rita, with considerable help from Caroline Able Smith and Margaret Hinds, prepared a Christmas Lunch for all those who regularly attend the Thursday 'shop' and coffee morning.

With a full, hot lunch and copious amounts of booze being served by two 'handsome waiters', those present enjoyed a pleasant if noisy afternoon.



A raffle was held with the intention of sending a donation to the 'Smile Train Foundation' who arrange for children born with hair lips in third world countries to have an operation to improve their disfigurement. The raffle raised £40.00 to which was added a further £35.00 from coffee morning funds. Adding this to the donation given by the ladies club, and a total of £150.00 was raised which is the cost of one child having the operation.

Finally, in gratitude for running the coffee morning every Thursday throughout the year, as well as this, the third of such Christmas lunches, Sheila Humphreys presented Rita and April with a beautiful bouquet and 'naughty' bottle of Baileys each.



THE POUND OF SILENCE

An Aylesbury Company Director finds out that one of his underlings has swindled him out of ten thousand pounds. This underling happens to be deaf, so the Director brings along his lawyer, who knows sign language. The Director asks the underling, "Where is the ten thousand pounds you embezzled from me?"

The lawyer, using sign language, asks the underling where the ten thousand pounds is hidden. The underling signs back,

"I don't know what you are talking about."

The lawyer tells the Director, "He says he doesn't know what you're talking about."

That's when the Director pulls out a pistol, puts it to the underling's temple, cocks it and says, "Ask him again!"

The lawyer signs to the underling, "He'll kill you for sure if you don't tell him!"

The underling signs back: "OK! You win! The money is in a brown briefcase, buried behind the shed near the Church Room in Aston Abbotts!"

The Director asks the lawyer, "Well, what'd he say?"

The lawyer replies, "He says you don't have the guts to pull the trigger."

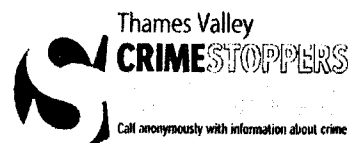
For more information about Neighbourhood Watch or Community Watch contact your local Watch Office on:



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WINGRAVE C.E. COMBINED SCHOOL

18th December 2008

Dear Parents/Carers

Another busy term, another visit from HMI. You will find more details on this below. So much has happened this term – including the recruitment of our new HT. However, the numerous activities that have been going on have been marvellous – there is nothing quite like a First School nativity to give us all the feeling that Christmas is nearly here. I hope you will all have a happy and relaxing Christmas.

Lynne Roxbee Cox – Chair of Governors

Ofsted Review You will no doubt be aware that HMI were in school last week. Governors and staff are pleased with the outcome of the review, but unfortunately cannot give you any further details until we receive the final report. This should be received very soon in the new term and will be copied to all parents. The programme to implement the Ofsted action plan which had been put in place will continue until the end of the academic year 2008/2009.

Head Teacher We are very pleased to confirm that we have appointed Mrs Pat Gurton to the post of Head Teacher to join us immediately after the Easter holidays next year. Mrs Gurton is currently a Deputy Head Teacher and has experience of working in schools undergoing difficulties and supporting the Head Teacher in moving the school forward. We are also fortunate that she has previously worked at a similar church school to ours and consequently understands the specific needs of Wingrave School.

Mrs Gurton began a Local Authority secondment in the Autumn Term to work alongside teachers in other schools. Mrs Gurton attended the HMI feedback meeting last week. She also came to the First School play and the Christmas Fair. Mrs Gurton will be visiting the school regularly next term to liaise with Mrs McClellan.

Staffing The governors wish Mrs Abbott well on her maternity leave and look forward to her return to the school in a few months time. Whilst she is away an experienced teacher has been taken on to teach in Reception class. Mrs Gomm spent a day in class last Friday getting to know the children.

Unfortunately we have not managed to appoint a new Office Manager as none of the candidates met our requirements. However, we are fortunate that the Finance Manager from county is continuing to deal with the school accounts for the time being. We will be re-advertising for this position after Christmas.

Learning and Teaching The school is currently being assisted by various LA consultants and advisors. These include the numeracy consultant Becky Eilers, who gave the brilliant parents' workshop in Maths last term and Hazel Glynn the literacy consultant. We will also have help from the LA science advisor and consultant next term. A lot of work is taking place in school to improve the teaching and learning, such as lesson observations, assessment analysis and pupil progress meetings. This will obviously be ongoing.

The school is now using a new tool (APP) to assess pupil progress in both maths and literacy. Each level has its own grid of statements against which each child is assessed. This then determines the level the child is at, together with which statements need focussing on to achieve the next level. This information is used when deciding on individual and class targets.

Class/Individual Targets As you know, children now have a personal and a class target. Personal targets will continually be reviewed and you will be advised when your child reaches their target and what their new target will be.

Home School Agreement The home school agreement has been reviewed and updated and this will be sent home early in the New Year. It will require a signature from parents and pupils in addition to the signature of the class teacher.

School Website Hopefully you will have now visited our impressive new website. There is a lot of useful information for parents on the website, which is constantly being reviewed and updated.

www.wingrave.bucks.sch.uk. Remember, you can also email the governors at wingravegovernor@gmail.com. If you are unable to access the website, contact the school office for any information

required. Governor Steve Gayler is now working on a Google calendar which will show all school and PTFA events together with governor meetings.

Premises The inside of the school is now looking much more cared for, we are now just waiting for county to organise the painting of the outside of the school.

Governors We have changed the structure of our committees to ensure we can review and progress the areas of concern identified in the Ofsted report. There are now four governor committees:

Learning and Teaching – this committee will cover two sections of the Ofsted report, 1. Achievements and Standards and 2. Teaching and Learning.

Leadership and Management – to cover section 3. Leadership and Management.

Care, Guidance and Support – to cover section 4. Care, Guidance and Support.

Corporate Services – to cover finance, personnel and premises.

When each committee meet they discuss and record the progress made on the action plan. This information is then fed back to the LA and HMI. Many areas of the action plan have now been completed, but this is ongoing and forms the current School Development Plan. We are aware that although we have to concentrate on improving the issues raised by Ofsted, we must not let the strengths of the school be forgotten.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we now have a full complement of governors. We would like to give a brief introduction to our new governors.

Yvonne White – Yvonne is a Wingrave resident and for many years has contributed to the Wingrave community in lots of ways. She is a very experienced governor having previously been a governor at our school and is also Vice Chair of governors at a school in Aylesbury. Yvonne has a teaching background and is also experienced in 'special needs'. She became a Wingrave school governor to help ensure our school returns to its former strength.

Jill Lewin – Jill lives in Stewkley and is also a very experienced governor having worked very hard as a governor at another local school. Jill is very committed and will be particularly involved in the library, school council and 'gifted and talented' children. Jill is Chair of our Care, Guidance and Support committee.

Rita Marks – Rita also lives locally and is an ex Chair of Governors at a school in Milton Keynes. She is also a very experienced governor with a lot to contribute to our school. Rita has a lot of knowledge of the education system and is very pro-active. She previously held a senior position within the school library service.

Karen Smethurst – Karen joins us as a governor from next term. Karen lives in Whitchurch and has 2 young children, both now in primary school. This is Karen's first term as a governor and she is very keen to get involved.

All of our new governors are keen to help us turn our school into the excellent school that the community deserves.

Events Governors were lucky enough to be invited to the dress rehearsal of the First School Christmas Play. The children were excellent, especially all of the farmyard animals. Well done to all of the children for their wonderful performance and to the staff and parents who helped to put this production together. Some of us also attended the carol service at church on Thursday. This seems very appropriate, given that we are a Church of England school. Well done to the year 6 children for their readings and prayers. We were also very pleased to see children representing the school at the Remembrance Day service in church in November.

Finally The governors and staff are still working extremely hard to ensure Wingrave School comes out of special measures as soon as possible and that all children get the standard of education they deserve.

We are all looking forward to our well earned Christmas break and would also like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a very **HAPPY CHRISTMAS**

Jackie Farrands - Vice Chair of Governors

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VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

New Year is a time when we start considering what the future holds for us.. we leave the old year behind and we begin the new year filled with anticipation – what will 2009 hold for me... what will happen, where will we go, who will we meet? I always remember the saying “If you want to give God a good laugh tell him your plans!”, because as we all know life doesn’t always go to plan!

A family was awakened by their smoke detector in the middle of the night to discover that their house was on fire. The father ran into the upstairs bedroom of his children and carried his eighteen-month old baby in his arms while dragging his four year old son by the hand.



They were halfway down the stairs when the little boy remembered that he had left his teddy bear in the bedroom, so he broke free from his father’s hand and ran back to the bedroom to retrieve it. In the furor and confusion, the father didn’t notice that his son wasn’t with him until he got outside. By now the little boy was trapped by the flames and smoke in his second story bedroom. Smoke swirled around him and he coughed and cried out from the upstairs window, “Daddy, Daddy! Help me!”

His father yelled from below, “Jump out of the window, Andy! I’ll catch you!” In the darkness and smoke, the little boy yelled back, “But Daddy! I can’t see you!”

Daddy shouted back, “That’s okay, son. I can see you! Jump!”

There is a true saying that goes, “I don’t know what the future holds, but I do know who holds the future.” Do you worry about the future? Are you afraid of what you can’t see? Does it seem dark and smoky? None of us can see what lies ahead, but God tells us to trust him and “jump”....So what I’m saying is “Jump” into 2009!

4th January

Epiphany 6pm Evensong Rev. Michelle Morton

11th January

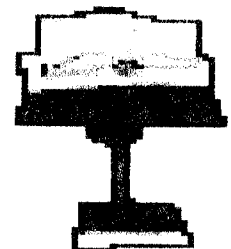
Baptism of Christ 10am Holy Communion Peter Binns

18th January

2nd of Epiphany - **Watch the church notice board?**

25th January

3rd of Epiphany 10am Holy Communion Rev. Michelle Morton



The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. George Burns

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St James Church

With effect from January service times are slightly altered as follows:-

1st Sunday of month

2nd & 4th Sundays

3rd Sunday

5th Sunday

Evensong 6pm

Holy Communion 10am

2nd Sunday Rev Peter Binns

Said Communion 8pm

BenificeAA/Cub./Soul./Stew. in rotation

THE CHURCH IS OPEN every Thursday

morning at 9.30am for anyone who wishes to reflect, meditate or pray for a few minutes or longer.

It is anticipated that the Church will be open for around half an hour or so and people may come and go as they wish. Usually Shirley Ford will be present to start with a religious reading or a prayer. Please come along.



| | Sidesperson | Readers | Flowers | Cleaners | Mowers |
|---------|-------------|---------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 4th | Andrew | | Colin | Caroline L Anita | none till spring |
| 11th | Gordon | | Shirley | Ann/Gordon | |
| 18th | April | | - | Shirley/Andrew | |
| 25th | Caroline L | | Caroline A/S | April/Colin | |
| 1st Feb | Andrew | | Anita | Anita | |

BOOK THIS DATE! Saturday 21st February 7pm St James Church

CONCERT 'Songs from the Shows'

Lindsey Stafford Smith (more details next month)

"It's happened. The note came from school saying my daughter needed a long-sleeve gold shirt, sparkly tights and some bits of tinsel for her hair. The nativity play had arrived, and she was going to be a star. With no lines. And I thought, Why isn't she a wise man or an angel? Why isn't she Mary? I had become THAT mum. I would have let it drop. Except when my daughter and I talked over breakfast the next day, planning where we could find the tights and the bit of tinsel, another bit of information came to light. "The star is a very important part of the nativity play!" I said, in my best game-show host voice. "I'm not the main star," she replied, eating her toast. "That's Thomas. I'm another star."

Not THE star; A star. So she was not even the star that mutely waves over the wise men, but part of a star posse that stands around in the background, presumably making calls on their mobiles and ensuring the limo arrives. She is, of course, perfectly happy being *another* star, along with her friend Frances. I was the one morphing into Gypsy Rose Lee's mother.

Which explains why I found myself in front of my daughter's teacher actually asking her, in as nonchalant a manner as I could muster, how they assigned the parts. And, erm, why didn't my daughter have any lines? She smiled sweetly. "Oh all the ones that take ballet classes are stars. We did that because they perform a dance in the play." Oh. A dance. Well, that's pretty good. Especially considering how she loves to boogie around, pointing her toes and doing "floaty" arms.

So I calmed down. I chuckled to myself on the walk from the school gate - how silly, worrying that my daughter was somehow overlooked, her talents not appreciated, her star qualities relegated to "star" qualities. I vowed to put more faith in her teachers for recognising her abilities. That night my daughter proudly told her father she was in the nativity play as a star. As she danced off across the sitting room, he turned to me and in a low voice said, "A star? Why isn't she Mary?"

extract from 'Why isn't she Mary? The perils of being a nativity play mum..' by Sarah Ebner



Pest Control

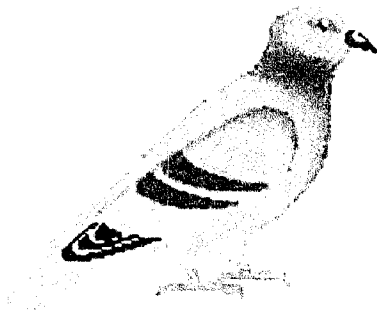
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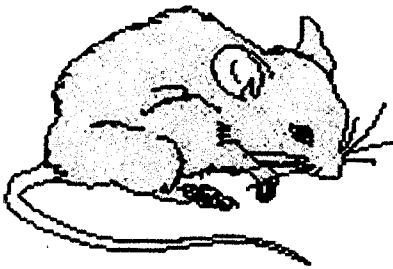
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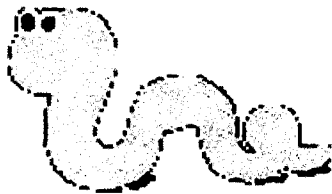
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| 100 Club | Colin Higgs | 681343 | Milkman | Ron Miller Dairies | 482838 |
| 630 Club | Andy Bystra | 681690 | Mobile Library | Buckingham Library | 01280 813229 |
| AVDC | Switchboard | 585858 | NHS Direct | 24hr Medical Advice Line | 0845 46 47 |
| Baby & Toddlers Group | Kim Gayler | 681123 | Parish Clerk | Paul Bruton | 682322 |
| Bus Enquiries | Traveline | 0870 608 2608 | Parish Council Leader | Peter Shorrocks | 681260 |
| Buses | L&S | 415468 | Police | Emergencies | 999 or 112 |
| Chronicle Advertising | Phil Corrigan | 688191 | Police | Non-emergency | 0845 8 505 505 |
| Chronicle Distribution | Andy Bystra | 681690 | Police | Wing Police Station | 396163/4 |
| Chronicle Editorial | John Hardcastle | 688070 | Railways | Chiltern Railways | 0870 516 5165 |
| Church Mowing Rota | Geoff Curnow | 681459 | Rambler's Club | Colin Higgs | 681343 |
| Church Room Hire | Colin Higgs | 681343 | Rector | Revd Michelle Morton | 01525 240287 |
| Citizens Advice | Aylesbury | 0870 126 4056 | Refuse Collection | Enquiries | 585510 |
| Council | Aylesbury Vale District | 585858 | Roads & Transport | Colin Higgs | 681343 |
| Council | Bucks County Council | 395000 | Royal Oak | Teri & Gary Moutt | 681262 |
| County Councillor | Quinton Ings-Chamber | 688431 | RSPCA | General Enquiries | 08705 555 999 |
| Dial-A-Ride | | 330088 | Scouts | Julia Ellis | 681118 |
| District Councillor | Peter Cooper | 681250 | Whist | Colin Higgs | 681343 |
| Doctor (emergency out of hours) | | 331511 | Wingrave Preschool | Paul Weston | 681127 |
| Fete Coordinator | April Curnow | 681459 | Wingrave Post Office | (PO only) | 682964 |
| G.N.O.M.E.S. | Carol Spooner | 681544 | Wingrave Post Office | (Stores) | 681696 |
| Hospital | Stoke Mandeville | 315000 | Wingrave School | Office | 681436 |
| Ladies Club | Shirley Ford | 681865 | | | |
| Member of Parliament | John Bercow MP | 714240 | | | |

Please let us know of any errors or omissions

The Chronicle

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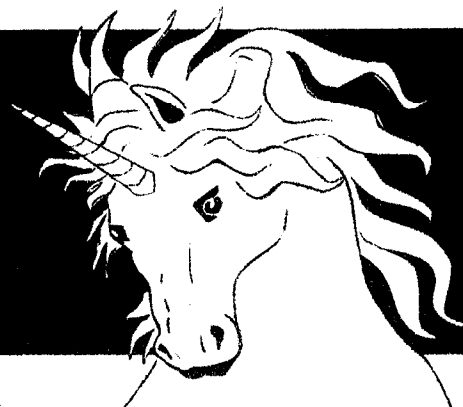
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What's On In January

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 4th | Rambling Club 2pm Evensong 6pm | meet at Emerson MK St James Church |
| Tuesday 6th | Mobile Library 10.45am | The Green |
| Wednesday 7th | Parish Council 8pm | Church Room |
| Thursday 8th | Prayers 9.30am Coffee/Shop 10-12noon | St James Church Church Room |
| Saturday 10th | Christmas Show | Church Room |
| Tuesday 13th | PCC Meeting 7pm | Cublington |
| Thursday 15th | Prayers 9.30am Coffee Shop 10-12noon Bingo 7.30pm | St James Church Church Room Church Room |
| Sunday 18th | Said Communion 8am | St James Church |
| Tuesday 20th | Mobile Library 10.45am | The Green |
| Thursday 22nd | Prayers 9.30am Coffee Shop 10-12noon Ladies Club 2.15pm | St James Church Church Room Church Room |
| Thursday 29th | Prayers 9.30am Coffee Shop 10-12noon Whist Drive 7.30pm | St James Church Church Room Church Room |
| Sunday 1st February | Rambling Club 2pm Evensong 6pm | Watermead St James Church |

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

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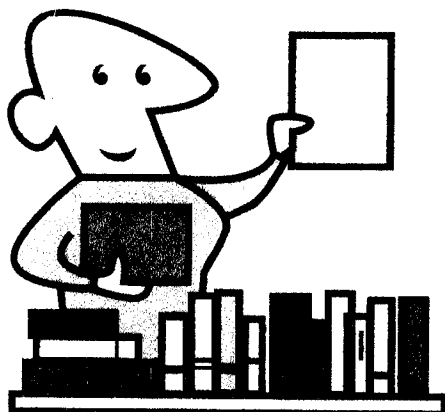
Phone Emma home 01908 561493 mobile 07733 275122

630 Club

Meets every Saturday

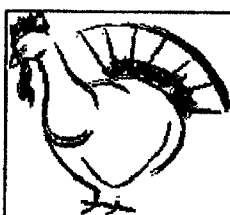
in The Royal Oak at 6.30pm.

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



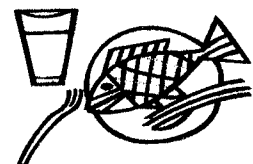
MOBILE LIBRARY ON THE GREEN

10.50am - 11.05am
January 6th & 20th
NEW TIME!



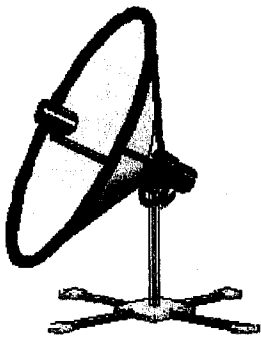
December's Turkey was on page 33 looking blooming marvellous

FISH & CHIP VAN every Wednesday on The Green approx 9pm

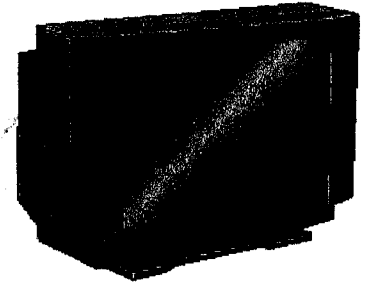


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World Record Success!

Aston Abbots was celebrating a world record success in December, as it became known that Mr David W Lewis of Church Farm had beaten the world record for making the transition from the perpendicular to the horizontal. Mr Lewis achieved his feat at a pre-Christmas cocktail party when he went from standing to comatose in just 45 minutes, ably assisted and encouraged by a motley gaggle of supporters and hangers-on who supplied him with a bevy of unspecified multi-coloured alcoholic drinks.

The other party goers celebrated through the night after the feat, whilst Mr Lewis was placed in his normal recovery position: flat on his back on the sofa, trousers undone, snoring loudly.

Mr Lewis has confidently stated that he can beat his own 45 minute record in the future. Supporters believe he has a good chance, if next time he can be dissuaded from attempting inappropriate physical contact with female guests during the attempt.

~ Chronicle Reporter

Flackwell Electronics - Purveyors of Plasma Screens to the Gentry