

# THE CHRONICLE

**ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE**  
Issue 295 - December 2009





# Editorial

The Chronicle is printed at Waddesdon School. Because half term fell at the end of October it could not be printed until the beginning of November. Its thanks to Andy Bystra and his team of distributors that we were able to get copies of the November issue out in time for Remembrance Sunday. My thanks to all concerned.

Its time to also thank all the regular contributors to the Chronicle for all their efforts over the past year (in particular Alison Lewis, Peter Shorrocks, Colin Higgs) . Special thanks to Janice Issitt who has been responsible for the design and printing of the colour front pages and many thanks to those people who sponsored their production. Special thanks also to Phil Corrigan who has looked after the advertising and to John Whyte who handles the Chronicle's coffers. It's a combination of advertising revenue and the generous contribution made by the Fete Committee that pays for the Chronicle production costs. Thank you all for your support.

There has been a lot of discussion and apprehension caused by the recent auction of small parcels of land near the Wingrave crossroad. It appears that Aylesbury Vale District Council can do little at the outset to combat the land being occupied and used by travellers. Netta Glover is urging the general public, you and me, to keep an eye on matters and to report any unusual activity to the District Council. If and when any unlawful use is made then the local authority can impose a Stop Notice - but as we all know, the travelling fraternity pay little heed to the the laws that we have to abide by.

Judy and I are proud grand parents again. Our eldest son's wife gave birth to a healthy boy on 9th November. We travelled up to their home in Cheshire to see young Harry who weighed in at 8lbs 12oz, about the same weight as the Christmas cake Judy baked the other week.

I trust you all have a good time over Christmas and enjoy a happy and prosperous New Year. *John*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SPEECH by Simon Guy
- WHAT'S on in December
- COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS
- RECIPE GIRLS
- ALLOTMENT DIARY

**THE CHRONICLE**

**Issue 295**

**December 2009**

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More than 205 households receive  
The Chronicle 11 times a year and with  
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cheaper than some local Parish  
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Copy date for the next issue

**Friday 18th December**

Please pass items to John  
Hardcastle or to a member of  
the Production Team as early  
as possible.

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

# Alison's Gossip Column

## BIRTHDAYS

### December

Ivan Greenaway	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Phil. Spooner	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sue Bale	7 <sup>th</sup>
Allison Hewitt	11 <sup>th</sup>
Bridgette Guitierrez	11 <sup>th</sup>
Rosie Manning	12 <sup>th</sup>
Jo Perkins	12 <sup>th</sup>
Stella Howell	14 <sup>th</sup>
Kevin Copping	15 <sup>th</sup>
Claire Barnett	18 <sup>th</sup>
Derek Ludlam	19 <sup>th</sup>
Michael Ellis	19 <sup>th</sup>
Peter Curry	19 <sup>th</sup>
Robert Smith	20 <sup>th</sup>
Jane Copping	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Shirley Hanlon	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Nicholas Osborn	25 <sup>th</sup>
Val Smith	25 <sup>th</sup>
Mollie Poulter	30 <sup>th</sup>

The RACE NIGHT held in the Church Room on 14th November was great fun as those of you who attended will testify.

A huge thankyou to James Perkins who did an enormous amount of work to make this night a very successful fund raiser for the Church making £500. Thank you also to Shaune and Laura, from the Jug, who provided wonderfully tasty pies with mash at a very reasonable cost. Thanks must also go to the helpers that James co-opted on the night. They did a sterling job.

#### *April Curnow*

*Managed to get three winners - Rum 'n' Raisin in the Shaune and Laura's Pie Cup ; Treacle Tart in the Housing Trust Hurdle ; and American Jack in Hannah's Hectic Hurdle. For the big race the McManus Dodgy Driveways Derby I bought PC Plod but he unfortunately lived up to his name. Shirley Ford won that race on Officer Dibble. A most enjoyable evening Ed*

The December cover is sponsored by Shirley Ford. Photo and layout by Janice Issitt.

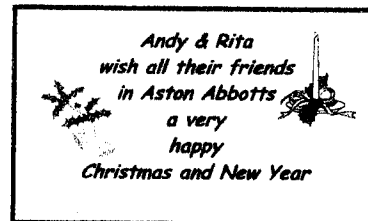
Get Well to Jo Perkins who recently underwent an operation.

Get Well to Sheila Humphreys who has just left SMH and also to Percy who has the most horrific black eye I have ever seen.

Goodbye to Jeremy and Sue Bale at The Gables who are moving to Woodbridge, Suffolk. Good Luck on the move. Try and avoid a divorce! Welcome to Stuart Burgess and Karen Baxter who will be moving in in due course.

The following would like to wish all their friends in Aston Abbotts a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year:

April and Jeff Curnow  
Francesca and Bob Bean  
Deirdre and John Whyte  
Alison and Dave Lewis  
Liz and Ivan Greenaway  
Bridget Brandon  
Brigitte and Juan Gutierrez  
Margaret and Tony Hinds  
Carol and Phil Spooner  
Ann Goodman and Gordon Kemp  
Sally and Nigel Palmer  
Money will be donated to various charities.



Ivy Brandon of 1 Ross Road, wishes to send Christmas greetings to all her friends and neighbours in Aston Abbotts.

**YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD OF THE CALENDAR GIRLS - well the Chronicle is going one better!**

Hope you were able to try out Carol Spooner's Prawns with Tomato and Feta.

11 lovely ladies have volunteered to suggest a recipe of the month. This month it's Alison Lewis's turn. The following month's are by, Brigitte Gutierrez, Francesca Bean, Judy Hardcastle, April Curnow, Jackie Farrands, Anita Parker & Margaret Hinds. see next page overleaf for **Alison's December Recipe.**

## ASTON ABBOTTS KITCHEN

### featuring the Recipe Girls

#### TOSS IN FRUIT CAKE by Alison Lewis

This is the easiest fruit cake to make in the whole wide world! The recipe comes from Anne Brancker's mother-in-law, Bridget. Imperial measures I'm afraid.

8oz self raising flour  
Pinch salt  
¼ teaspoon mixed spice  
4oz soft brown sugar  
12oz mixed dried fruit  
2oz glace cherries or nuts  
2 eggs  
4 fl.oz light oil  
4fl.oz milk  
½ tsp vanilla or almond essence  
1oz Demerara sugar

to review all the Chronicle Girls' recipes go to

[www.myspace.com/astonabbotts](http://www.myspace.com/astonabbotts)

Mix all ingredients together except the Demerara sugar, and put into a greased 7 ins cake tin. Sprinkle dem. Sugar over top. Place in centre of oven for 2 hours at 150 degrees/ gas mark 2. Take out and cool before removing from tin.



# VILLAGE ORCHARD

## OPEN LETTER TO THE VILLAGE - *from Peter Knight*

Those of you who were good enough to show support for the idea of a village orchard might well be wondering what progress has been made?

Well, the short answer is none. The allotment field is owned by the Church and administered by the Parochial Church Council of villagers.

As you know one third of the field is taken up by allotments and the other two thirds appears to be waste ground; no real use has been made of that land for at least thirty years.

To my surprise there may be a tenancy held on that waste ground and although the tenant has made no use of it to date he has plans to use the land in the future when he retires.

The PCC are remaining neutral on the idea of an orchard.

I have talked to the 'tenant' of the land and rather hoped he would join me in organising and making a village orchard. I thought it might give great satisfaction and interest to him when his retirement came. However, so far, he is inclined to keep the land for himself.

Instead of planning and preparing to plant trees I can do nothing to forward the idea of an orchard for the use and benefit of the whole village and can only hope that the 'tenant' and the PCC will eventually support the idea. In the mean time another year's planting season goes by.

## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Church was full to capacity for the Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November. Simon Guy gave a speech concerning the further research he has done about the men and family names recorded on the memorial and church gravestones. His historical researches made the service particularly meaningful when the sacrifices made during the World Wars were explained through those men's and relatives' relationship with St James Church and our village. The applause for Simon's words was testimony to all his work in researching our forebears history.

Simon indicated that he intends, at a later stage, to put all his findings into a bound document as a memorial to the men of Aston Abbots who lost their lives in the great wars. *Ed*

*(see pages 29 & 31 to read Simon's speech)*

## AN ODE TO OUR GARDENERS - *from the Autumn Edition of The Civil Service Retired Fellowship magazine*

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true, Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too!

All things 'spray and swattable', disasters great and small, All things 'paraquatable', The Lord God made them all. The green fly on the roses, the maggots in the peas. Manure that fill our noses, He also gave us these.

The fungus on the 'goosegogs', the club root on the greens, The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.

The drought that kills the fushias, the frost that nips the buds, The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds.

The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds, The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows on the seeds. The fly that eats the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums, How black the gardener's outlook, though green may be his thumbs.

But still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers, And pray what hits our neighbours, will somehow bypass ours. All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

*Submitted to the magazine by Dorothy Sewell*

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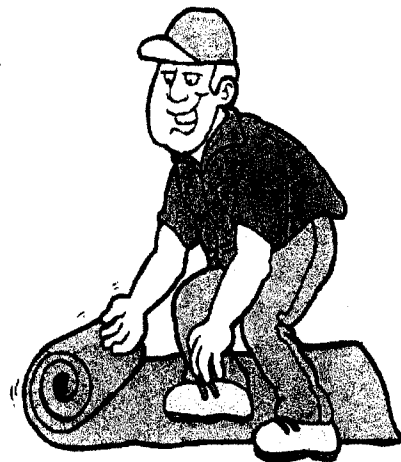
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*from Brigitte Gutierrez*

A long time ago back in July (at the Fete) we won a raffle prize to go to Earls Court to see the MPH Show with Top Gear Live a long way ahead on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November. As time drew a little nearer I made contact with Marisa who said the tickets were on the way but not yet dispatched. On the day still no tickets so we thought oh well !!!!. Then about 11oclock came a very apologetic John Abel-Smith with the tickets just as we were about leave for London on another matter near Heathrow. The weather was wet and windy but we decided to go to the show. I must say we were glad we did. We saw all the Prestige and High Performance cars, some vintage and some very new. It was quite a small show. I saw a concept Citroen that they had used in a video game and a new little Citroen that they are bringing out soon. Juan fancied a little Aston Martin. Still it's good to dream. At 6.30 we went off to see Top Gear, the driving demonstration on the small stage was quite exciting particularly the "doughnut" and the choreography and stunts of the cars was fun. The children who sat in front of us (about 8-12yrs) certainly were very entertained. As we were leaving we went to see Marisa and thank her for the tickets, she had been working hard for the whole of the show, only able to get back to Aston Abbots now and then. On the way home I asked Juan if we could do doughnuts on the car park, he was not impressed. So thanks for a fun experience.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE CHURCH ROOM?**

Those readers with long memories may remember that a group exists in the village, which has since the year 2000 been trying to take a lease of the Church Room. For various reasons which the laws of defamation prevent me from mentioning here, the transaction has dragged on . . .and on . . . and on. It was looking as though it would soon challenge Dickens' fictional case of Jarndyce v. Jarndyce. However, I am pleased to relate that the form of the lease is now virtually settled, and it really seems probable that it will be completed early next year. The main thing that is delaying things at the moment is the need to get estimates for work that needs to be done to the Church Room. The Lease will provide that the Tenant will carry out certain work to the building within a certain period of time, and clearly we need to know that there is enough money in the kitty to do all this work, before this commitment is accepted.

The work will include:-

Rebuilding part of the foundations at the southern end of the building, below the large window, which have been damaged by a surface water drain having stopped working; and rebuilding part of the end wall below this window

- Building a new surface water drain
- Relaying the floor of the building, to incorporate insulation and a dpc.
- Rewiring the building, and providing new heaters and lights; and installing a ring main with power points around the main room

Once the lease is granted, it is intended to apply for a grant for the maximum that can be obtained, in order to do the following additional work (or as much of it as we can do having regard to the need to get the necessary consents and finance):-

Installing a ramp to allow physically disabled people to use the Church Room

- Refitting out the kitchen
- Building an extension at the northern end of the building on the available land, in order to provide an entrance lobby, new internal WCs, including one that will be suitable for disabled people, and a storage area
- Providing an emergency exit door

This latter work is going to cost tens of thousands of pounds, and while, once the lease is granted, fund-raising will begin again, there is no way that it can be financed from fund-raising alone, and a grant will be vital. We have already made enquiries, and it does seem probable that we will be eligible for a grant. However, we cannot make any formal application until a lease is in place.

It is hoped that the next article you will read will be telling you that the lease has been completed. So fingers crossed, and watch this space!

*Our Legal Correspondent*

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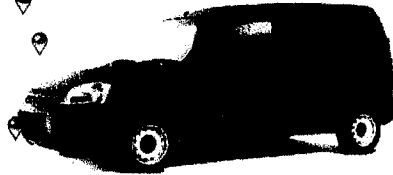
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### Santa's Magical Adventures 2009

The Christmas Season is here and The Buckinghamshire Railway Centre is getting fired up to spread a huge helping of Christmas cheer with our Santa's Magical Adventure days! The fun starts the moment you arrive! You will be shown to your reserved seats on the steam train where you will be joined by Santa himself. One of Santa's pixie helpers will pull your gifts from the huge toy sack and the magic begins! Your Magical Adventure includes free parking with level access, soft drinks and biscuits for children, seasonal refreshments for adults, 25-minute live magic show and a miniature railway.

As a special treat on 5<sup>th</sup>/ 6<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> December the train will be pulled Thomas himself! Thomas and friends will be celebrating along with Santa and his helpers on these very special festive days.

Please book your tickets now as these events sell out fast!

**Santa's Magical Adventures 2009 will be running on the following dates:**  
29<sup>th</sup> November 5<sup>th</sup>/ 6<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>/ 20<sup>th</sup> December

**To book tickets contact 01296 655720 or visit our Website at [www.bucksrailcentre.org](http://www.bucksrailcentre.org) for further information.**

For more information about "Thomas" visit [www.thomasandfriends.com](http://www.thomasandfriends.com)



# CAROL SINGING

You may remember that a huge number of us sang Carols around the village last year and raised over £200. So many people said how much they enjoyed themselves that we have decided to do it again on Monday 21st December. Please come along to the Green at 6.30pm warmly wrapped up with lanterns and torches if you have them. We will aim to finish up at the Royal Oak by 8pm and sing a couple of Carols in the bar.

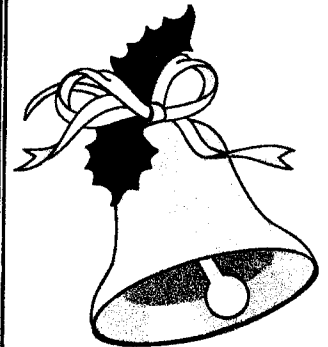
## Christmas trees & decorations in church

*Following on from last year's success, we are again intending to decorate the church for Christmas.*

*We cordially invite families, organizations, groups and individuals to contribute by joining in this festive activity by bringing along a decorated tree or tableaux. These do not have to be religious but should have at least some bearing on 'The Christmas spirit'.*

*The 'decorated' church' will be open on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Dec. and of course during Christmas services.*

*If you would like further information please contact Andy 681690, Colin 681343, or Shirley on 681865.*



## INTERESTING HISTORICAL FACTS - possibly

They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot & then once a day it was taken & sold to the tannery.....if you had to do this to survive you were "Piss Poor"

But worse than that were the really poor folk who couldn't even afford to buy a pot.....they "didn't have a pot to piss in" and were the lowest of the low.

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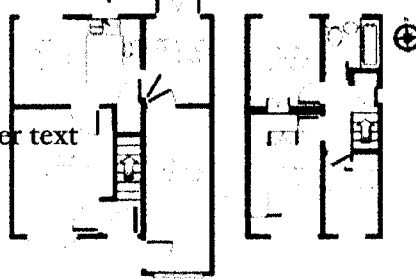
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## Countryside Matters

In the last few decades Wingrave village has faced some serious local problems. Firstly, the threat of the 3<sup>rd</sup> London airport, then the ongoing case of the Blue Route, Wing Bypass, which could destroy the lovely valley to the north of the village, added to this all the rat running through the village with the extra commuter traffic; and thirdly the increase in aircraft noise due to the moving of flight paths of Luton airport; and finally today, a new situation of the sale of multiple plots of land off Aylesbury Road, Wingrave. The 99 acres of agricultural grazing land was put up for sale by a family associated with the local area for nearly 60 years. The land was sold in good faith and contracts exchanged to an elusive buyer in London. The said buyer then very promptly within weeks sub divided the land into 11 x 0.4 acre plots which at Phase 1- 4.4 acres sold at public auction in London for £185,000, to whom we do not know. Until the land registry is compiled in due course,(about 6-10 weeks), we are not likely to find out this information. Completion has not been carried out with the original owner at the time of the Phase 1 auction. Furthermore, to the horror and surprise of the original owner the remaining 95 acres are to be sold at auction in London November 16<sup>th</sup>. If you have internet access you can go to ([wingraveland.co.uk](http://wingraveland.co.uk)), there are 9 lots in all ranging in size from 5 acres to 30 acres. The price guide indicates £35,000 to £175,000 per plot, depending on size. Completion with the original owner shall still, very likely, not have been executed by this date. This is highly irregular. The first time the original owner knew about Phase 1 and Phase 2 is when he read it about it in the local papers.

If these plots sell on Mon 16<sup>th</sup> to gypsies and travellers, they shall most likely move in over a holiday period, build roads as has been the case with other sites in near by villages and legally there is little we can do to stop it. The residents are then presented with an eviction notice by the Council, for which they cleverly apply for retrospective planning permission. This is hopefully turned down and the travellers then appeal against this judgement. The appeal is heard probably 18 months later. They then employ a smart lawyer (paid for by us under legal aid) and win the case on the grounds of their human rights violations (having sent their children to our village primary school for 2 years) sighting disruption of their education and claiming discrimination of minorities, aided and abetted by the United Nations, representative. (Yes you read that right) and they have won the case. We are stuck with an illegal encampment in our northern boundary against the football fields and the sports and social club.

In my view and I am not alone in this it will change the harmony of an ancient and happy village for ever. Let us all hope that the land goes solely for agricultural use, (Not much hope of that) or as a collection of the pony paddocks, very unlikely in this current financial climate, for all 95 acres of it? Here are the results of that auction held on 16<sup>th</sup> November for those of you without internet access.

The nine plots auction on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009;

1. £53,000 - 5.25 acres. Sold
2. £63,000 - 4.74 acres. Sold
3. Did not reach reserve, last bid £47,000 – 6.2 acres
4. £56,000 – 6.2 acres. Sold
5. Did not reach reserve, last bid £55,000 – 6.85 acres.
6. £59,000 – 8 acres. Sold
7. £55,000 – 8 acres. Sold
8. Did not reach reserve, last bid £197,000 – 27 acres.
9. £178,000 – 23 acres. Sold

*James Henderson*

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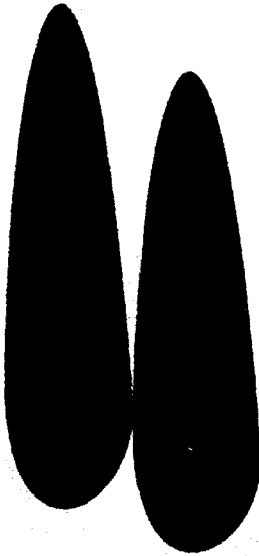
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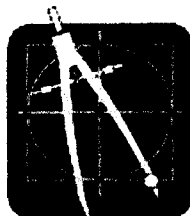
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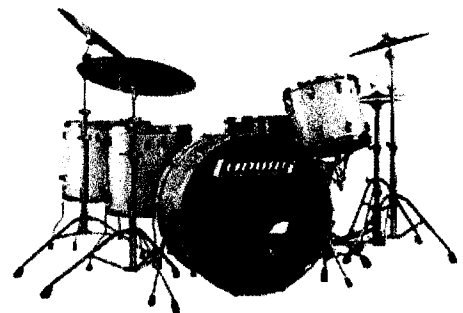
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Aston Abbotts



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***on***

***Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Dec.***

***between***

***10.30 am. & 4.00 pm.***

***Mulled wine, soft drinks  
& mince pies will be  
available***



**INTERESTING HISTORICAL FACTS - possibly**

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed.

Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection.

That's how canopy beds came into existence.

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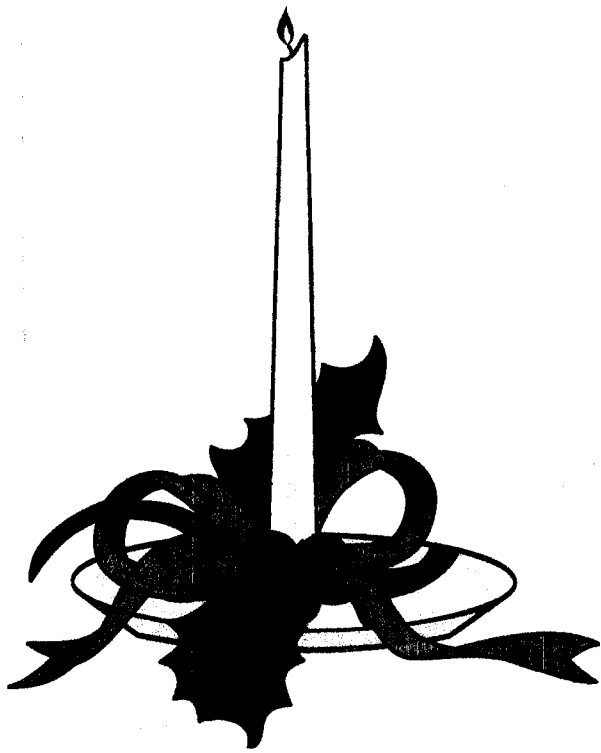
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opening presents or just enjoying a  
lay-in after a hectic night at the  
'Oak', there will be*

*a  
**Family Service,***

***commencing at 10.00am.**  
followed by communion.*

*at St James Church, Aston Abbotts  
Everyone is of course most welcome  
(Peter Binns will preside and will  
probably want to see some of your  
presents!!!).*

*- Please come along if you can.*

## **Christingle & Carol Service**

at

**St James Aston Abbotts**

On

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

starting at

**3.00pm.**

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and thoroughly enjoy  
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the children  
and  
good Christmas cheer?**



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**Mondays**—Commencing 16<sup>th</sup> November

Cafe 8.30am—2.30pm

Shop 8.30am—3.00pm

## ALLOTMENT DIARY

Well, that's almost it for another year. My allotment is now virtually bare of everything – including weeds, I am proud to say – apart from leeks, red & white cabbages, and sprouts; and my raspberry canes. These did me proud this year, despite my attempt to kill them with weed-killer at the beginning of the year: I picked my last bowl of raspberries (enough for two people) on 12<sup>th</sup> November. The other plant that did really well was my solitary pumpkin plant, which produced 20 individual pumpkins. It's a pity that I have still to discover anything that I can do with pumpkins that I really enjoy! However, I was popular around 31<sup>st</sup> October.

I had two crops fail this year – in each case for the second time running. The first was my sweetcorn. The plants grew to a good size, but the individual kernels of corn never swelled and became ripe. Possibly I did not plant them out in the allotment early enough. Others on the allotments had good crops. I will try again next year. The other failure were the aubergine plants that I grew in my greenhouse, and since my tomatoes and peppers both thrived, I am coming to the conclusion that my greenhouse does not get enough sun - it is shaded by a tree for most of the afternoon – and I am going to give up on this one.

Yet again I have failed to plant any crops this autumn, despite having bought the packets of seed in readiness. I think the problem is that the autumn does not seem the right time to be planting anything. I am going to try with a row of spring onions, in the hope that, since the weather is - at the time of writing – still very mild, I might be in time to get a crop come the spring.

Since there is nothing much else to write about, I thought I would share with you some more extracts from my book called “In the Garden”, which I have enjoyed. The first is a very nice definition of an allotment:

*“One of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants, operated by charity-minded amateurs, in an effort to provide healthful, balanced, diets for insects, birds and animals”*

The second is very true:

*“A garden is never as good as it will be next year”*

And finally, something completely different. It is alleged that when the Queen presented Alan Titchmarsh with his MBE, she said to him:

*“You've given a lot of ladies a lot of pleasure . . .”*

*Peter Shorrock*

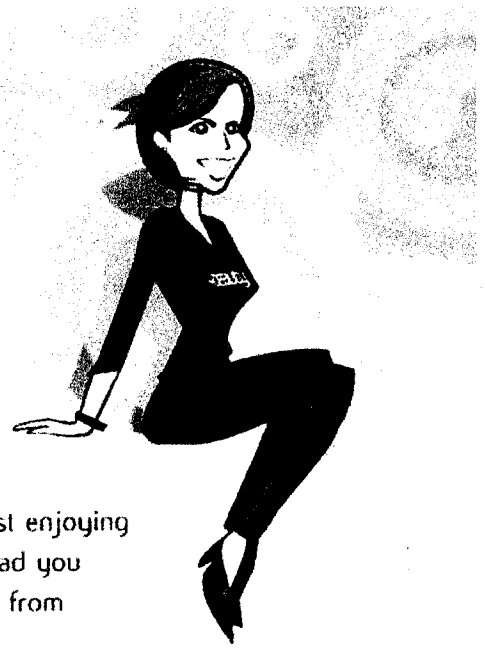
**[www.myspace.com/astonabbotts](http://www.myspace.com/astonabbotts)**

If you haven't done so already please check out the Aston Abbotts myspace page. Janice Issitt has now started to add the Recipes of the month, look for these under : view my blog  
There are also plenty of photos of the village and its events including a video of the Fete.

If you would like to send me some of your best/worst Christmas Cracker jokes then I'll publish a few in the New Year edition. *Ed*

*Here's one to whet your appetite* **How did the glow-worm feel when someone trod on it?** see page 25

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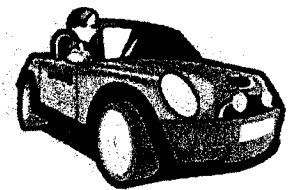
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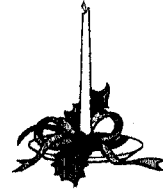
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## Wingrave Art Club



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If you are interested in joining the club whether on a regular or occasional basis please contact me and I can email you the programme.

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## ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB

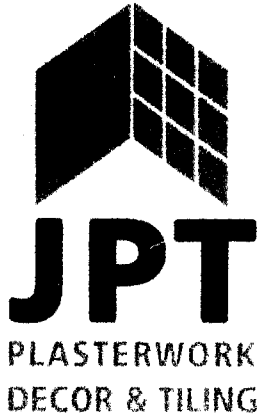
At our meeting on 18th November we discussed Brigitte Gutierrez selection 'The Return' by Victoria Hislop. The book dealt with how Spain suffered under the Franco regime. Those who had previously read Victoria Hislop's first book 'The Island' thought 'The Island' a better book. I found the first 100 pages a bit Mills and Boon and the closing scenario very contrived - but I enjoyed the historical content especially as it dealt with an era I had no knowledge of and was set in places I know.

The next book to read, chosen by Sally Palmer, is 'A Prisoner of Birth' by Jeffrey Archer. Meet at Sally Palmer's house 8pm 9th December. (The book for January, chosen by Pam Hewitt, is 'Watching the English' by Kate Fox. Meet at Pat's house 27th January). *Ed*

*If you would like to join in the discussion/fun then please let me know.*

*You will be very welcome.*

*The only other man in the group, Jeremy Bale, has moved out of the village. Surely there are some other men who read books. Please get in touch. Ed*



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## Remembrance Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2009

*Huge thanks must go to Simon Guy who was instrumental in making this the most memorable Remembrance Service I and probably many others have ever attended. Simon has researched each of the village lads mentioned on our war memorial and has visited their graves.*

*His short presentation, describing just a few of these, really brought their memories alive, especially since some had been christened and married in our church (the very church we were in) and, as their consecutive service numbers indicate, two even stood shoulder to shoulder as they signed up for duty; one to lose his life in France, the other in Italy. As Simon spoke I looked around and noticed I wasn't the only one wiping away a tear of sympathy for these 'Aston Abbotts lads'.*

*Andy Bystra*

Read Simon's speech starting on page 29 & concluding on page 31

### **THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE - WORLD WAR I - How Did It Start?**

There are many accounts of the Christmas truce, the most famous of which concern the meeting of British and German forces; however, French and Belgium troops also took part. The unofficial nature of the truce meant that there was no one single cause or origin; some narratives tell of British troops hearing their German counterparts singing Christmas carols and joining in, while Frank Richards, a private in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, told of how both sides erected signs wishing the other a 'Merry Christmas'. From these small starts some men crossed the lines with their hands up, and troops from the opposing side went to meet them. By the time officers realised what was happening the initial meetings had been made, and most commanders either turned a blind eye or happily joined in.

### **How Long Did It Last?**

The fraternisation lasted, in many areas, for the whole of Christmas day. Food and supplies were exchanged on a one to one basis, while in some areas men borrowed tools and equipment from the enemy, in order to quickly improve their own living conditions. Many games of football were played using whatever would suffice for a ball, while bodies that had become trapped within No Man's Land were buried.

Most modern retellings of the Truce finish with the soldiers returning to their trenches and then fighting again the next day, but in many areas the peace lasted much longer. Frank Richard's account explained how both sides refrained from shooting at each other the next day, until the British troops were relieved and they left the front line. In other areas the goodwill lasted for several weeks, bringing a halt to opportunistic sniping, before the bloody conflict once again resumed.

*'Some people ask the secret of our long marriage. We take time to go to a restaurant two times a week. A little candlelight, dinner, soft music and dancing. She goes Tuesdays, I go Fridays.'*

**Anonymous**

### **INTERESTING HISTORICAL FACTS - possibly**

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing.

As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way. Hence: a thresh hold.

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## **Aston Abbots & Cublington Ladies Club**

*The club arranges for speakers to give talks at most of their fortnightly meetings. They cover a very wide range of topics as can be seen from the list I've published below.*

*The invitation is not restricted to just ladies!!*

*So!! - If you feel you might be interested in any of these, why not 'get out of the house for a while and come along and enjoy a n interesting and convivial hour or so.*

*A small charge of £2.00 is made to help with the cost of speakers but this includes tea/coffee and biscuits.*

### **PROGRAMME FOR 2009**

**Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>** Lindsey Stafford Smith 'A musical afternoon'

**Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** Carol Service - Cublington'.

### **PROGRAMME FOR EARLY 2010**

**Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>** John & Juliet "Riyadh 1407"

**Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>** Peter Wenham "Handling history"

**Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** Jill Carey "Island Odyssey"

**Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>** Dr. Tony Maisey "Spare Parts"

**March 4<sup>th</sup>** Alison Lewis "The role of a Magistrate"

## **Aston Abbots & Cublington Ladies Club**

### **29<sup>th</sup> Oct**

*Today we held our AGM. At which 14 members were present. After a short business meeting the minutes of our last AGM. were read and approved.*

*Reports from our Chairman, Treasurer, Social, and Program Secretaries were then read.*

*The Committee were voted back en bloc. However, since our present Chairman has decided to 'stand down', June Brine was chosen to replace her.*

*A 'bring & buy sale was then held and raised £30.10 Tea hostesses were Shirley Ford Jane Brine and Margaret Kent and the raffle winners were Irene Lowden, June Loader Daphne Rogers*

*Shirley Ford.*

### **12<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

*14 members and three visitors attended the Aston Abbots and Cublington Ladies Club on Thursday 12th November to hear a delightful talk by Vic Scott on "The Road to Samarkand". Vic illustrated the story with beautiful slides of places he had visited remembering the most difficult to pronounce names off the top of his head. Members always enjoy Vic's talks which he gives without notes. Everyone felt they had been on the journey with him. Margaret Hinds thanked him for a delightful afternoon. Margaret and April were tea hostesses for the afternoon.*

*April Curnow*

**De-lighted!** *answer from page 19*



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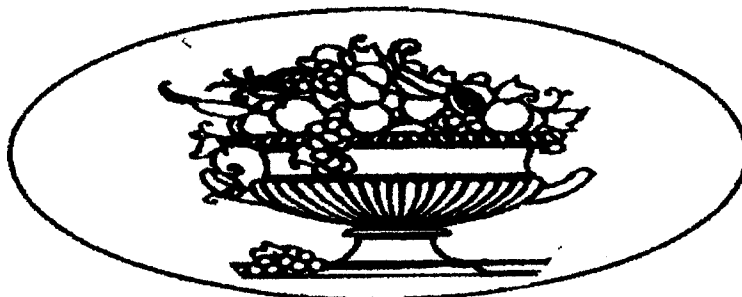
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## Remembrance Day 8th November 2009 - Simon Guy spoke these words at the Remembrance Service held at St James Church - Aston Abbots

Good morning, as you've probably guessed I've not had the experience of standing up and speaking to a church congregation before and the last time I heard a sermon it began 'we are gathered here today'.

But that did spark an idea as to how I should begin and that is to ask the question 'Why are we gathered here today'?

Well, in my mind it's about one word – Remembrance.

To quote the British Legion:

*"Remembrance Sunday, the second Sunday in November, is the day traditionally put aside to remember all those who have given their lives for the peace and freedom we enjoy today. On this day people across the nation pause to reflect on the sacrifices made by our brave Service men and women."*

For me, here in Aston Abbots, that means pausing to reflect on the sacrifices made by the 13 men remembered on the war memorial and in the graveyard of the church.

I also pause on this day to remember my Great Uncle Alfred Bradshaw. Born in 1896, one of eight children (his younger brother being my Granddad). He was killed in action, aged 21 on 4th October 1917 in the mud of Passendale. It was researching his life and family that led me to wonder if I could do the same for 'the lads of Aston Abbots' as they became known to me. I wanted to put a face and a family to the names on the granite.

That was nearly 2 years ago and the research has led me to some fascinating insights into the lives of the men from our village as well as their way of life. One of the first names that leapt out to me from the memorial was the 3 instances of 'Paxton'. Amos & Harriet Paxton lived in Aston Abbots on Wingrave Road. She and Amos (a gardener) had moved to the village from Hethe, near Bicester in 1887. They had, by then, 4 children and a further 6 were to be born in Aston Abbots. All 6 of their sons were to serve in the 1st World War.

Who can possibly imagine the anguish of the parents during those 4 dark years? Of the 6 sons they had, 3 did not return. Amos jnr, born in Aston Abbots on the 3rd November 1892 joined the Grenadier Guards and was killed in action on 1st November 1914 less than 3 months after Great Britain had declared war, 2 days short of his 22nd birthday.

Two years later Walter Paxton, a corporal in the 1st Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme. Walter was born in Aston Abbots in 1888. He was baptised on 25th November 1888 by the Rev T W Martyn in this Church. He was 27 years old when he died.

Another 2 years had passed when Harriet & Amos were to receive yet another one of those dreaded knocks on the door. Their youngest son Edward John Paxton was a Private in the 1st Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. He was killed in action on the 25th August 1918 less than 3 months before the end of the war. He too was born in Aston Abbots and was christened on Christmas Day 1897 in this church by the Rev. Martyn. He was 20 years old when he died.

Each one of the lads of Aston Abbots has a tale to tell about their life and tragic early death but no family could have suffered more than the Paxtons. What is especially poignant is that of the three Paxton brothers only Edward has a grave. Amos & Walters bodies were never found. Amos is remembered at the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres in Belgium and Walter is remembered at the Thiepval Memorial in France along with more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave.

I've had the honour and privilege to visit each one of the memorials and graves of all the lads of Aston Abbots which are situated in Belgium, France & Italy.

In July of last year I visited the grave of Captain Ernest Hesketh Harrison of the East Surrey Regiment in Peronne, France. Ernest, son of the Reverend Robert Birch Harrison, wasn't born in the village but used to live at Lower Burston Hill farm. It was there that he met Alice Adelaide Pargeter who was born in Dunton in 1893. They were married in this church on 3rd April 1917. 18 months later he was killed in action on 18 September 1918 aged 26.

This year saw me in Northern Italy to visit the graves of Albert Thomas Kent and Percy Thompson. Both were privates in the Oxford & Bucks Light infantry and had already seen plenty of action in France before they were transferred to the Italian Alps in 1918 where they were both killed in action. Percy died aged 26, on the 18 Oct 1918, just 24 days before the armistice.

*continued on page 31*

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The immaculately kept cemeteries are to be found high up in the mountains surrounded by trees and rocks. It must have been a scary place back then with no where to dig in and artillery shells bursting above your head sending shrapnel and razor sharp splinters of wood into your small foxhole. Having survived the Somme, one can only imagine how Albert & Percy would have felt.

There was one lad on the memorial that this time last year I was having trouble finding. He is listed as Alfred Castle and try as I might I couldn't find any connection to the village. I now know that his name is in fact George Alfred Castle. He was born in Warwickshire but must have been living and working in Aston Abbotts when he joined the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry. I know this because his regimental number is 266612 one less than Albert Kent whose number is 266613. They must have stood together in the queue when they enlisted. Now I have this information I know that he was killed in action on the 19 July 1916 at Fromelles. His body was never found and he is remembered at the Loos Memorial in France. That was however, until recently. You may have heard or read that a mass grave had been found at Pheasant Wood, Fromelles which contained 250 Australian & British soldiers. DNA testing is currently taking place and a relative of Alfred Castle has been found to provide a sample of their DNA to compare to the soldiers found. When the 250 soldiers are re-interred on 19 July 2010 it could be that Alfred Castle might, at last, have a proper resting place.

I have not mentioned all of the 'Lads of Aston Abbotts' by name but all of the research and family trees on all of the lads can be found in the church today. I will keep adding to it and one day, when it's complete, I hope to get it properly bound to be a lasting record for the village.

My thanks to all of you for coming here today and helping to remember the lads of Aston Abbotts. It's been a privilege to be able to share with you my research and I hope it's helped you in your act of remembrance. Thank you.

*Simon Guy*

*The congregation gave Simon's speech warm applause Ed*

#### Dear Villagers News from Wingrave CE Combined School

Here are some of the highlights of this half term so far. On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November we held a Remembrance Day assembly and observed the two minute silence. I was so proud of the children who behaved so thoughtfully and respectfully throughout. That afternoon we also held an Open Afternoon. Visitors took tours with our Year 6 guides and we received very positive feedback from all our visitors both about our excellent guides and about the school as a whole. Here are a few extracts:

*"We are very excited about sending our daughter here..."*

*"Very informative, friendly, impressed with progress that I can see..."*

*"The pupils that showed us the school were very polite and very informative. We were very impressed with the school..."*

*"Whole school appeared well organised and all the children well behaved"*

On 13<sup>th</sup> November we had a visit from our MP, John Bercow. He met me, took a tour of the school, spent time answering some searching questions from our Year 5/6 pupils and enjoyed the Year 2 family assembly.

On 19<sup>th</sup> November we had a Science Day across the school. Children were divided into mixed aged groups from Reception to Year 6 and took part in three exciting, practical challenges. In the afternoon they watched a Science show from the Quantum Theatre Group.

The children also took part in Children In Need, wearing black and yellow, bringing along a teddy to school and raising money in a variety of ways throughout the day.

Congratulations to two of our pupils Abbie Lee and Ben Lewington in Year 4 who have both been named as winners in the "Pen a Poem" competition. This competition was organised by Bucks Education Business Partnership, attracting 216 entries from 16 schools. Abbie was overall Year 4 winner with the poem "I Wish" and Ben was one of three children who were highly commended with his poem "Thief". They will both receive certificates and a printed book containing all the winning entries including their own. Well done Abbie and Ben!

If you missed our Open Afternoon and would like to come and see our school in action, then please make an appointment. We would love to welcome you to Wingrave School. Phone the office on 01296 681436.

*Patricia Gurton Headteacher*

*Two secrets to keep your marriage brimming*

*1. Whenever you're wrong, admit it,*

*2. Whenever you're right, shut up.*

**Patrick Murra**

# WINGRAVE PRE-SCHOOL

OFSTED INSPECTED



## QUALIFIED STAFF

Key Worker appointed to each child

Government-funded voucher scheme  
for 3-4 year olds

For children aged 2 - 5 years

Monday to Friday 9.20-11.50

The Community Centre, Church St, Wingrave

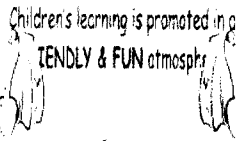
Contact: Sally Ransell - Pre-School Leader

07983 422752

or

Paul Weston - Committee Chairman

01296 681127



LUNCH CLUB SESSIONS

AVAILABLE DAILY

11.50 TO 1PM



## Flowers for all Occasions

I am an experienced city and guild trained florist and can make and deliver professionally designed bouquets, arrangements, table decorations or funeral flowers

Prices range from £5 for a child's gift posy, table decoration from £10, hand tied bouquets from £20 and funeral flowers from £30.

I am based in Aston Abbotts and will deliver your chosen design, free of charge, to any address within a 5 mile radius of the village. I can also deliver outside this area for a reasonable charge.

Please telephone Jayne for further details or email to receive a selection of sample photographs.

Telephone      01296 681066  
                         07952 255639

E-mail            jaking1@hotmail.co.uk

Your local butcher for all your farm fresh needs:



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

Order now from the family butcher. Established since 1914

## **PARROTT BROS**

Butchers and Farmers, Beechmoor Farm, Cublington Road,  
Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 4LG Tel: 01296 641207

## MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

The Mobile Library stops on The Green every other Tuesday between 10.50 and 11.05

8th & 22nd December

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

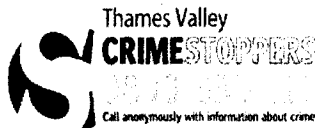


**0845 8 505 505**

the single non-emergency number for Thames Valley Police

or log on to the website at

[www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org](http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org)



## CHURCH ROOM Bookings

£6 per hour for residents  
(plus metered electricity)

£20 per hour for non residents  
(plus metered electricity - a returnable deposit of £50 at the time of booking is required)

Please note that an additional hour over and above the period of the event must be booked to cover setting up and clearing away.

Weddings and Christenings -  
a fixed charge of £50.

Please contact Colin Higgs on 681343  
if you wish to book

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

**Peter Shorrocks (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**  
Marloes, Lines Hill - 688070

**Andy Stefanczyk**  
73 The Green - 07742 957684  
(Street Lighting Officer)

**Kate Curry**  
2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane - 681137

**District Councillor**  
**Peter Cooper**  
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham - 681250

**County Councillor**  
**Netta Glover - 688357**

### Parochial Church Council

(Ian Olgvie 01296 661479)

**Shirley Ford 681865 - Churchwarden**

**Colin Higgs 681343 - Churchwarden** **Gordon Kemp 681763**

**Andy Bystra 681690**

**Anita Parker 681325**

**Ann Goodman 681763**

**April Curnow 681459**

**Caroline Abel Smith 681001 - Secretary**

**John Abel Smith 681001 - Treasurer**

100 Club Winners for  
November  
£50 - Hannah Brandon  
£10 - Sally Turnham

## SUMMER NEEDN'T END .... JET AWAY TO THE SUN TODAY



Los Narejos beach

With 320 days average sunshine per year and probably the best climate in Europe.... Los Narejos on the shores

It's fantastic for Families.... for Cou-

And it's just a 10 minute transfer

### Our modern Beach House has everything you need for a fantastic holiday

- 3 bedroom house sleeps up to 7
- Double sofa bed, travel cot
- Fully air conditioned – cold and hot
- Bath / shower room + separate shower room
- Fully equipped kitchen with oven, microwave
- Lounge with TV, DVD, CD plus dining area
- Washing machine
- 50 metres to sandy beach (5km long)
- Calm, warm sea perfect for children
- Restaurants, bars, supermarkets nearby
- Pedestrianised promenade
- Over 20 golf courses within 20km
- Water sports, horse riding, scuba diving etc
- Thermal spas, salt bath, culture & history

**Direct low cost flights from Luton Airport to Murcia San Javier with Ryan Air**  
Also Stansted (Ryan Air), Gatwick (easy Jet), Birmingham (FlyBE) and other UK airports

**Available Half Term, Winter and Christmas 2006 and throughout 2007**

#### **Low Season £ 260.00 / week (€ 400)**

28<sup>th</sup> October – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2006

6<sup>th</sup> January – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007

#### **High season £ 350.00 / week (€ 550)**

1<sup>st</sup> July – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2007

#### **Mid season £ 300.00 / week (€ 450)**

20<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> October 2006

20<sup>th</sup> December 2006 – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2007

5<sup>th</sup> April 2007 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007

16<sup>th</sup> September – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2007

For more information or to book call Andi or Becky Swain on  
01296 670388 or visit our web site at [www.espanolvilla.com](http://www.espanolvilla.com)

DO YOU VISIT FRANCE OR SPAIN?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE  
YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS?

**French or Spanish**  
**lessons**

**Customised Classes available**  
**at a venue of your choice**

Phone (01525) 221413



## Get The Whole Job Done

No more juggling workmen...  
I can do the lot (and juggle too!)

Kitchens, Bathrooms, Floors,  
Doors, Shelves, Tiling, Fitted  
wardrobes, Plumbing,  
Maintenance, Small Building Work.

Anything considered.  
Just ask for a free estimate call

**Chris Dowell**  
**(01525) 270701**

# Blooming Marvelous Plants

## Winslow

Beautiful plants for discerning gardeners  
Wide range of unusual & well known plants.  
Seeds, bulbs, compost, pots, friendly advice.

Open Weds to Sat 9-5, Sunday 10-4,  
March to end Sept. Winter by apptmt.  
300m outside Winslow, on the road  
towards Aylesbury.  
Call Alexia on 07963 747305  
[www.bmplants.co.uk](http://www.bmplants.co.uk)



## ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES IN WINGRAVE



The third course of the 2009/10 season starts on January 12<sup>th</sup>

### THE DETECTIVE IN FICTION

The history of the detective character from Poe's Dupin to P D  
James' Adam Dalgliesh. Detailed studies of Holmes, Wimsey,  
Poirot and Marlowe. A consideration of modern detectives such  
as Morse, Wexford and Rebus.

There will be five sessions from 7.30 to 9.30 pm on Tuesdays from January 12<sup>th</sup>

The course will be held at Wingrave Methodist Church. Course fee £35

To benefit fully from this course, it is recommended that the three books to be discussed in  
detail should be read before the first session. It is therefore essential to contact Roberta  
Smith on 01296 681219 before 19<sup>th</sup> December if you are interested in the course.



## Christmas menus now available.

Grand opening of new restaurant and kitchen -  
Watch the website for a special night in November!!

Please note that to enable building work to be  
successfully completed on time, food will not be available  
on Tuesdays during October and November 2009.

Thank you for your patience.

### Events for November

Wed/Thu 4/5th                      Special French Cuisine

Wed/Thu 11/12th                  Steak Nights

Wed/Thu 18/19th                  Special Italian Cuisine

Fri 27th                                Live Jazz

### Christmas at The Unicorn

Our Christmas menu is available for lunch and dinner from  
Tuesday 1st December until Thursday 24th December for  
pre-ordered bookings only (download booking form from  
website). The Unicorn can accommodate parties of  
2 to 60 in our new restaurant area. The Unicorn Club Room  
is available for private dining for an additional 20 people

### THE FRENCH ARE BACK!

Following their hugely popular visit in January 2009, Eric and  
his team are returning on 8th-11th January.

**Book early to avoid disappointment!**

### Unicorn Regulars:

#### Friday morning coffee and cakes

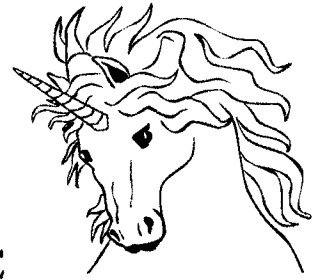
- home made cakes, coffee and chat from 10.30am

**Every Monday evening** we hold the now famous and  
extremely popular Unicorn Quiz. Starts at 8pm -  
why not bring a team?

#### Bar Billiards always available

The Unicorn, High Street, Cublington, Bucks, LU7 0LQ

Please see web site for full details  
[www.theunicornpub.co.uk](http://www.theunicornpub.co.uk)



## THE UNICORN at Cublington

If you plan to eat at  
The Unicorn we suggest  
booking in advance.

Please contact Sharon  
or Tim on 01296 681261

Aylesbury Vale  
Pub of the Year  
2009!

# St James Church

Times are as follows:-

**1st Sunday of month Evensong 6pm**  
**2nd & 4th Sundays Holy Communion 10am**  
**3rd Sunday Said Communion 8am**  
**5th Sunday Benefice AA/Cub./Soul./Stew. in rotation**

The Church is OPEN every Thursday morning at 9.30 am 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 prayer.

Please come along.

	<b>SIDESPERSION</b>	<b>CLEANERS</b>	<b>FLOWERS</b>
<b>6th</b>	Andrew	Anita/April	No flowers
<b>13th</b>	Gordon	Ann/Gordon	No flowers
<b>20th</b>	April	Shirley/Andrew	Christmas
<b>25th</b>	Church Wardens		Christmas
<b>27th</b>	at Soulbury		
<b>3rd Jan</b>	Andrew	Colin/Caroline	

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,  
Let your heart be light  
From now on,  
our troubles will be out of sight

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,  
Make the Yule-tide gay,  
From now on,  
our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days,  
Happy golden days of yore.  
Faithful friends who are dear to us  
Gather near to us once more.

Through the years  
We all will be together, If the Fates allow  
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough.  
And have yourself A merry little Christmas  
now.

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
Just like the ones I used to know  
Where the treetops glisten,  
and children listen  
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
With every Christmas card I write  
May your days be merry and bright  
And may all your Christmases be  
white

## CREATION

A man said to his wife one day, "I don't know how you can be so stupid and so beautiful all at the same time."  
The wife responded, "Allow me to explain.  
God made me beautiful so you would be attracted to me; God made me stupid so I would be attracted to you!"

# THE PCC NEEDS YOUR HELP

Over the past few years Mursley Deanery has been trying to come to a conclusion on the re-organisation of the benefices within the Deanery.

Two years ago we were advised by the Deanery, that as a result of a reduction in the clergy, the Parishes of Cublington and Aston Abbots would be linked for a trial period with Stewkley and Soulbury as opposed to Wingrave and Wing. Many of you wrote to support our PCC in objecting to this as it was felt that we should most definitely be aligned with Wingrave because of our many longstanding village connections i.e. school, youth organisations, the shop and post office, Czech connection and for many other reasons. As you are probably aware we have been trialling this arrangement with Stewkley and Soulbury for nearly two years now.

We made the suggestion then, and again recently, that Stewkley, Cublington, Aston Abbots and Wingrave should be linked as one Benefice. Geographically this makes sense, from a schools point of view and also the workload for the clergy and it would enable us to retain our links with both Wingrave and Cublington which we see as important.

Following a recent consultation meeting with all eight PCCs participating we were subsequently told by the Deanery that of the various options that had emerged just three were being put to us to consider. These three options together with our proposed option, mentioned above, are listed below with our comments following each.

**Option 1** – To continue with the present arrangements as they have not been properly trialled due to the Rev Michelle Morton's illness, but now that the Rev Ian Ogilvie has been appointed by the Bishop to look after us temporarily, we have the opportunity to see if it could work.

Stewkley, Soulbury, Cublington and Aston Abbots Benefice has four churches but only 1 priest in charge. Civil population 3314.

Wing, Wingrave, Cheddington and Mentmore Benefice has 1 priest in charge and 1 House for Duty priest (3days a week). Civil population 6758.

**PCC view:** This seems wrong as the Rev Ogilvie only works 2 days a week including Sundays and to continue the trial on that basis would not be appropriate or fair. We have been in limbo for almost two years now.

**Option 2** – Amend the current trial by moving Aston Abbots to join the Wing/ Wingrave/ Cheddington/Mentmore Benefice. Civil population 7194.

The other Benefice would consist of Stewkley, Soulbury and Cublington which would be easier for 1 priest to manage. Civil population 2878.

**PCC view:** This option is a lot fairer and makes sense in some respects but would mean we lose our church connection with Cublington.

**Option 3** – Set up a Group Ministry including all the 8 parishes. This gives more flexibility for Clergy and Lay resources within the Group to cover parishes and gives options for a variety of services in all parishes.

**PCC view:** This option could/would lead to a loss of identification with an individual Parish Priest. It seems little different from Option 1 as we would still in fact be part of a Stewkley, Soulbury, Cublington and Aston Abbots Benefice and, because of the unsettled time we have had recently, we feel the need for personal pastoral care and leadership rather than a very fluid arrangement. A Group Ministry may be something that we would have to consider in the future if further economies have to be made.

**Option 4** – Form a Benefice of Stewkley, Cublington, Aston Abbots and Wingrave. Civil population 4820.

Wing, Soulbury, Cheddington and Mentmore would become the other Benefice. Civil population 5730.

**PCC view:** This would give two viable attractive positions and deploy the clergy more fairly. A number of Soulbury children go to one or other of the Wing schools and currently a Soulbury churchwarden lives in Wing.

Decisions taken now could affect how our Church is run for a very long time in the future and the PCC have a huge responsibility to ensure they are right. The views of all the parishes affected have to be taken into consideration, and therefore the final decision does not rest with us. **However, we want to do our best for the parishioners of Aston Abbots. Please do let us have your views.**

**Please tear off the bottom of this page and return it to any member of the PCC.**

The PCC members and phone numbers are listed elsewhere in the Chronicle but our email addresses are as follows if you prefer to email us:

Andy Bystra: oldariel@tesco.net; April Curnow: aejurnow@googlemail.com; Ann Goodman and Gordon Kemp: magnificat@waitrose.com; Anita Parker: anita.parker@tesco.net; Caroline and John Abel Smith: cbjlas@talk21.com

---

Name/s:

Please circle your preferred option: Option 1; Option 2; Option 3; Option 4.

Would you be interested in a meeting with the PCC? Yes/No

Any other comments welcomed or if there are different views in a household please indicate your option here:

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

Price list

Styling

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

Mens

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

Colour

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

Hair extensions

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

Manicures and pedicures

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

Bridal services

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

## The Aston Abbotts Telephone List

100 Club	Colin Higgs	681343
630 Club	Andy Bystra	681690
AVDC	Switchboard	585858
Baby& Toddlers Group	Kim Gayler	681123
Bus Enquiries	Travel line	0870 6082608
Buses	L & S	415468
Chronicle Advertising	Phil Corrigan	688191
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690
Chronicle Editorial	John Hardcastle	688070
Church Mowing Rota	Geoff Curnow	681459
Church Room Hire	Colin Higgs	681343
Citizens Advice	Aylesbury	0870 1264056
Bucks County Council	Switchboard	395000
County Councillor	Netta Glover	688357
Dial-A-Ride		330088
District Councillor	Peter Cooper	681250
Doctor	(emergency out of hours)	331511
Fete Coordinators	Tracey Hinds	TBA
	Vanessa Worrall	TBA
G.N.O.M.E.S.	Carol Spooner	681544
Hospital	Stoke Mandeville	315000
Ladies Club	Shirley Ford	681865
Member of Parliament	John Bercow MP	714240
Milkman	Ron Miller Dairies	482838
Mobile Library	Buckingham	01280 813229
NHS Direct	24 hr Advice Line	0845 4647
Parish Clerk	Paul Bruton	682322
Parish Council Leader	Peter Shorrock	681260
Police	Emergencies	999 or 112
Police	Non-Emergency	0845 8505505
Police	Wing Police Station	396163/4
Railways	Chiltern Railways	0870 5165165
Ramblers Club	Colin Higgs	681343
Rector	Revd Michelle Morton	01525 240287
Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moul	681262
RSPCA	Enquiries	08705 555999
Scouts	Nikki Reeve	681372
Whist	Colin Higgs	681343
Wingrave Pre School	Paul Weston	681127
Wingrave Post Office	PO Only	682964
Wingrave Post Office	Stores	681696
Wingrave School	Office	681436

*please advise of any errors or omissions*

## Holiday Steam Ups

A great post Christmas day out with a Festive flavour. No need to book just turn up. Steam train rides, Punch & Judy, Children's Magic Show, Seasonal Refreshments, 25 acres of railway history.

10.30 until 17.30 last admission 16.30

**Buckinghamshire Railway Centre,**

**Buckinghamshire HP22 4BY**

**Sun Dec 27, 2009 to Mon Dec 28, 2009**

# The Chronicle

## Advertising rates per annum

FULL PAGE	Back	£100
	Inside	£ 80
HALF PAGE	Inside	£ 40
	Quarter Page	£ 25
ONE OFFS	Full	£ 20
	Half	£ 15
	Quarter	£ 10

**Seasonal and short term ads are also accepted at these rates**

Send copy and cheque payable to

'The Chronicle' to

**Phil Corrigan**

5, Nash's Farm, Aston Abbotts, Bucks

01296 688191

corriganpc@aol.com

## Aylesbury's Christmas French Market

Joyeux Noel! Come and see the delights from across the channel at this year's fabulous French Market, with food and wine to entice the tastebuds and continental delights visit the Market on Saturday 12th December in Kingsbury and on Sunday 13th December in Market Square for that je ne sais quoi!

Saturday 12th December 2009 9am till 5.30pm Sunday 13th December 2009 10am till 4.30pm

**Kingsbury, Aylesbury town centre and Market Square, Aylesbury town centre. Buckinghamshire  
Sat Dec 12, 2009 to Sun Dec 13,**

### WIFE VS. HUSBAND

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word.

An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?"

"Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws".





# Pest Control

By the BEE's Knees at MSC Ltd

Environment Agency Certificate Number TWE/673982

Member of British Institutes of Cleaning Science BiCS



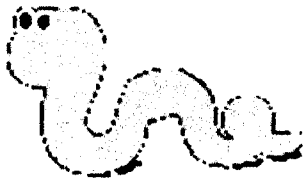
**Wasps £35.00 Inclusive**  
**Guaranteed, No Hidden Charges**



**Pigeon netting and pointing protection. Mess removal and disposal in accordance with DEFRA and EA. Certificates of disposal supplied.**



**Rats/mice all trapped and disposed of in accordance with DEFRA and EA.**



**Woodworm, Cockroaches, Insects, Flies, Squirrels.**

**T: 01296 424284 M: 07950 379250**

**E: [jim@mtsfc.co.uk](mailto:jim@mtsfc.co.uk)**

# What's On In December

Wednesday 2nd	Parish Council	Church Room 8pm
Thursday 3rd	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon
	Whist Drive	Church Room 2.30pm
Sunday 6th	Rambling Club meet at Woburn Sands 2pm	
	Evensong	St James Church 6pm
Tuesday 8th	Mobile Library	The Green 10.50am
Thursday 10th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon
	Ladies Club Carol Service at Cublington	
Saturday 13th	Village Footpath Walk	The Green 2pm
Tuesday 15th	Rambling Club Christmas Dinner	
		The Star Heath End 7pm
Thursday 17th	Coffee Shop + Xmas lunch	Church Room 10-12noon
Saturday 19th	Christmas Tree Festival	St James Church 10-4pm
Sunday 20th	Christingle Service	St James Church 3pm
Monday 21st	Carol Singing Round Village meet at The Green	
		6.30pm
Tuesday 22nd	Mobile Library	The Green 10.50am
Friday 25th	Family Communion	St James Church 10am
Sunday 27th	Benefice Service	Soulbury 10am
Monday 28th	Bank Holiday	
Sunday 3rd Jan	Rambling Club Meet	3 Locks 2pm
	Evensong	St James Church 6pm

## 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](mailto: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

**CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle**

Phone us on 01296 688191 or email

[editor@aachronicle.co.uk](mailto:editor@aachronicle.co.uk)

### Christmas Food Market at Waddesdon Manor

Start your Christmas food shopping early with a tempting selection of items from various stallholders. 11.00-4.00, excludes Monday and Tuesday

**Waddesdon Manor Buckinghamshire HP18 0JH**

**Sat Dec 5, 2009 to Sun Dec 13, 2009**

### Dickens of a Christmas

The beautiful and historic town of Olney is taken over by stallholders dressed in Dickensian costume and people out to join the festivities which take over the town. There are three craft fayres, a market place packed with events and food and drink as well as the Farmers Market. Entertainers are out on the streets and you can take a horse and carriage ride. Plenty of places to buy your gifts too!

**10am-4pm Market Place, Olney, Buckinghamshire MK46 4BA**

**Sun Dec 6, 2009**

### Christmas Classics by Candle-light with the Manor House String Quartet

Step into the tiny village church of St Giles in Cheddington and join the Manor House String Quartet for an evening of classical music on the themes of Christmas and Winter. All profits go towards the 'Cherish Your Church' campaign. The programme will include well loved pieces and carols. Tickets are £10 or £7 concessions, available from 01296 660472. Mince pies and mulled wine will be available.

Doors open 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start

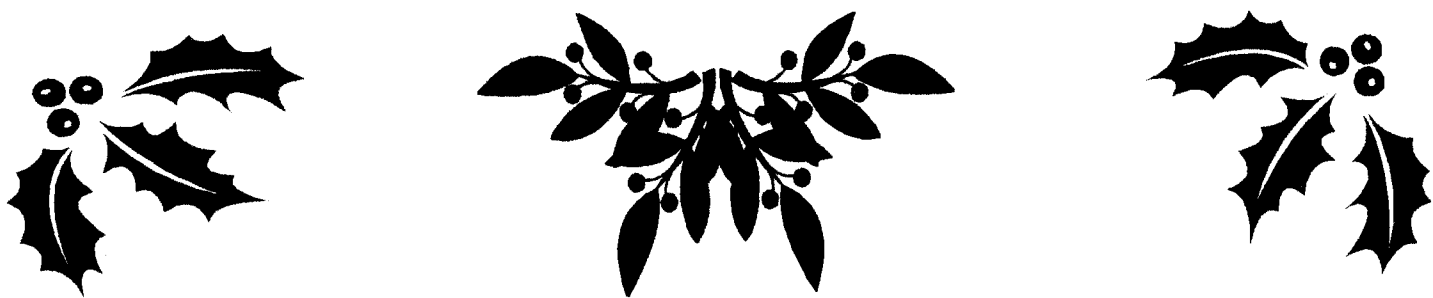
**St Giles Church, Church Lane off Station Road,  
Cheddington Buckinghamshire LU7 0SX**

**Fri Dec 11, 2009**

**630 Club** - meets every Saturday in the Royal Oak at 6.30 pm. New members very welcome. Contact Andy Bystra if you need an introduction.

**GNOMES (Girls Night Out Men Excluded Sorry)** meet, usually in the Royal Oak, every Tuesday 8 pm onwards - all Ladies very welcome - GNOMES specialises in intelligent conversation over a glass of something.

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



**Merry Christmas**  
**and a happy new year**  
**from**

**Alison & Dave**  
**Flackwell Electronics**

