

The Chronicle

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE

Issue 300 - May 2010



Editorial

My first editorial was for the January 2006 edition. I have enjoyed my time as Editor and wish Janice Issitt, who takes over next month, every success and I trust you will give her as much support as you have given me.

The editorial that The Chronicle's first editor (Graham Parker) wrote back in September 1983 still holds good. (printed below).

This first issue of the CHRONICLE will I hope inform, entertain and amuse. The aim is to try and provide a magazine that will have something for everyone. If your area of interest is not covered please let me know and I will try and put the matter right in future editions.

There is almost too much to report this month - a successful Festival; a sensational (and much deserved) second place in the Best Kept Village Competition; news of a new 'Domesday Book' to be produced by the Friends of the Vale of Aylesbury, as well as our regular 'Message from the Rector'.

Other monthly features include advice from our 'Amateur Gardener' and the 'Aston Abbotts Cookbook', a pot-pourri of recipes old and new; familiar and unfamiliar.

But, this is your newsletter, available free to all. If you want to announce future events, suggest ideas, buy something or sell something why not use THE CHRONICLE.

The regular 'Update' section on Parish Council news will I hope keep you informed of issues that are discussed and enable you to use your voice in village affairs. This month the Council is seeking your advice on the future of the Church Room. All comments would be most welcome.

Graham Parker.

There is a very strong community spirit in Aston Abbotts and I consider The Chronicle contributes a great deal to that. Long may it continue!

It's been a privilege to have been entrusted with the editorship and to try and maintain the high standard set by Phil Spooner who edited The Chronicle for five years before me.

The Chronicle derives its modest income from its advertising revenue and the generous contribution made by the Fete Committee every year. This ensures that every household gets a free copy. The Chronicle also relies on many people who contribute their time and effort every month.

I'm looking forward to reading the June edition. *John*

IN THIS ISSUE

- the 300th Edition
- WHAT'S on in May
- COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS
- RECIPE GIRLS
- ALLOTMENT DIARY and OAK FARM HOUSE HISTORY

THE CHRONICLE

Issue 300

May 2010

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A note to all would be advertisers - More than 205 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

Friday 28th May

Please pass items to the New Editor Janice Issitt 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

May

Mervyn King	2 nd May
Charlie Bystra	3 rd
Harry Bystra	9 th
Hannah Brandon	12 th
Jeff Banister	17 th
Callum Hilton	21 st
Tom Manning	22 nd
Benjamin King	22 nd
Milani Drysdale	23 rd
Mark White	23 rd
Neil Chesher	26 th



FROM PETER SHORROCK on the day after my party, someone put a multicoloured golfing umbrella on my front wall - presumably dropped by someone walking by. I brought it in, because it kept blowing off onto the road. If the owner would like to get in touch, I shall be delighted to restore it to him/her.

Congratulations to Peter Shorrock who celebrated his 70th birthday at a surprise garden party at the beginning of April. The event was skillfully managed by his sons Adam and Piers. The party - Peter was organising for 1st May is cancelled.

Extract from the 200th Edition - *we're getting there, Ed*

The Church Room

Tom Manning said that the most people would have been aware of the results of the vote in The Chronicle, when an overwhelming majority supported the redevelopment of the Church Room. He would shortly be calling a meeting at which he would instruct the architect to obtain building regulation approval and then fund-raising ideas would be sought and vigorously explored.

We're sad to have to say Goodbye to David DeSilva and Louis and Bonita. David has moved to Hastings, Louis back to university and Benita's off to India travelling with her boyfriend. We wish them all luck.

But when someone leaves someone else arrives. Welcome to the new owners of The Old House, Aya and Daniel Clarke. My mum says there're young, good looking and there's a baby on the way!

LITTER BLITZ

Grateful thanks to all who took part in the April Litter Blitz. We collected 27 sacks full, 4 car tyres, 1 wheel, 1 television, piping and a radiator and dozens of drink cans - Wingrave Road was the worst area.

Colin Higgs

David, Louis and Bonita DeSilva would like to say goodbye to everyone, friends, neighbours and familiar faces, that they have come to know in the village over the last 20 years. It really has been a lovely place to live and to grow up in. And a special thank you to everyone who was so kind and supportive during Barbara's illness. It meant a lot to us.

please note

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

8pm 14th May Church Room

see page 9 for details

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

Hope you were able to try out April Curnow's 'Last Minute' Cake.

11 lovely ladies have volunteered to suggest a recipe of the month. This month it's Jackie Farrand's turn. The following month's are by Anita Parker & Margaret Hinds. see next page overleaf for Jackie's .

ASTON ABBOTT'S
KITCHEN
featuring the Recipe Girls

This month - two recipes
from Jackie Farrands



Herby salmon and couscous parcels

Serves 2

110g pack lemon and garlic couscous
200ml hot vegetable stock
1 tbsp olive oil
Handful chopped fresh herbs (parsley, thyme or coriander are good)
4 spring onions thinly sliced
4 sun dried tomatoes (if from jar use approx 10 pieces)
2 salmon fillets

Put the couscous into a bowl and stir in the stock and oil. Cover with cling film and leave to stand for 10 minutes, then uncover and fluff up with a fork. Keeping back some herbs, add the rest of the ingredients except the salmon.

Heat oven to 200c – fan 180c – gas 6. Cut two large sheets of non-stick baking paper, then divide the couscous mixture between the sheets. Sit a fillet of salmon on top of the couscous, top with the remaining herbs and season. Fold the paper over and then twist the edges to seal – like a Cornish pasty. Pop the parcels onto a baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes or until the fish feels firm through the paper. Serve straight from the paper with a green side salad.

Pasta with smoked salmon and leeks

Serves 2

1 tbsp olive oil
1 large or 2 small leeks thinly sliced
1 clove garlic crushed
100g smoked salmon (trimmings are fine) chopped
200ml healthy living crème fraiche
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp dill (or other herb such as basil) chopped
Ground black pepper

Sauté leek and garlic in olive oil for a few minutes until soft (not brown).

Add rest of ingredients and heat gently for a few minutes until salmon is cooked.

Serve with pasta and perhaps some garlic bread.

MY THANKS *from Ed*

There are many people I would like to thank for all their help and enthusiasm during my time as Editor. I hope I have remembered you all - if you're not on the list then please accept my apology, it's my poor memory at fault.

First on my list are the regular contributors. Peter Knight for his wonderful monthly diary (now discontinued), James Henderson for Countryside Matters, Rod Rothero for the crossword (discontinued since Rod and Val moved away), Bob Wilmott and then Derek Witchell for Church News (hopefully this will return in the near future), Alison Lewis for her gossip column, Colin Higgs for What's On information and village notices, Shirley Ford for Ladies Club, Peter Shorrock for the Allotment Diary, Paul Bruton (Parish Clerk) for Parish Council Minutes etc, Phil Spooner for the 'Back Page', the Recipe Girls for their wonderful dishes and Janice Issett for the colour front covers and photographs.

There are also a number of people who contribute occasional articles and anecdotes and jokes, some of which I can publish. Please continue to send these to Janice.

My thanks also to John Whyte who looks after the Chronicle finances making sure we have money in the pot and that our bills are paid. Many thanks also to Phil Corrigan who handles all the advertisers and adverts that appear in the Chronicle.

Big thanks to the team of people who deliver the Chronicle to our doors.

My sincere thanks to Andy Bystra for all his hard work organising the printing and distribution of the Chronicle and for his articles and notices (identified by the 'bee' logo).

My thanks to you the readers. The feedback the editor gets is usually limited to a terse reminder if someone's name or birthday is wrong. I trust the majority of you do at least glance through the editions so lovingly produced - it wouldn't be worth the effort if it were thought that villagers didn't value the Chronicle.

My final 'thank you' goes to Judy (The Chronicle Censor, Computer Expert, Proof Reader, Wife and Mother).

Janice Issitt takes over with the June edition. I wish her and you all continued health and prosperity and trust a 400th edition is out there in the future. *John*

Time goes quite slowly - I spotted this article (below) in Edition No 1 September 1983 - new speed limits have now been agreed - I hope they make a difference. *Ed*

Traffic on Moat Lane and Lines Hill : The County Council had indicated that a 30 m.p.h. limit could not be granted on this road as there was only development on one side. A traffic count had been carried out but in the view of the County Council had not indicated an abnormally high traffic flow for such a road. However it was indicated that "chevrons" would be made available to warn of the sharp bend. The Parish Council did not accept the County view and agreed to continue to push for a 30 m.p.h. limit (numerous exceptions to the 'both sides developed' argument were mentioned); to continue to point out to the County that there was no footpath yet many parents with young children had to walk the route in order to catch the school bus - a walk which in the depths of winter could be particularly hazardous.

The Chronicle

Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts

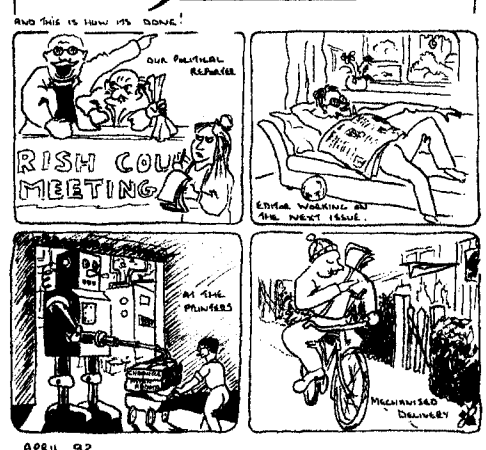
WELCOME TO OUR FIRST EDITION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

RESULTS OF THE BEST KEMP VILLAGE COMPETITION
A REPORT ON THE VILLAGE FESTIVAL
NEWS OF A NEW 'WEDNESDAY WOOD'
PLUS OUR REGULAR 'MONTHLY' FEATURES
SPECIALLY COMMISSIONED THIS
THE AUTHOR APPROVED COVER FOR
LIFE IN VILLAGE

September '83 No. 1

The 100th Chronicle



THE CHRONICLE

ASTON ABBOTTS PARISH MAGAZINE - APRIL 2001

ISSUE NUMBER -

200



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The following are the dates ADVC's freighter will be visiting our village.

11 May 2010 12 noon to 3.30 pm The Green

16 November 2010 12 noon to 3.30 pm The Green

MAY & AUGUST HOLIDAYS 2010

REFUSE and RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Normal collection day

Thursday 5 May

Thursday 2 June

Thursday 1 Sept.

Revised collection day

Friday 6 May

Friday 3 June

Friday 2 Sept.

For information about refuse and recycling,
go to www.aylesburyvaldc.gov.uk/refuse or call 01296 585510

CRAFT AND SEWING GROUP ANYONE?

Are you interested in sewing or craft and would you like some pleasant company while doing it? How about a sewing/craft group, once a month round at someone's house over tea and biscuits? Val and Janice are both keen crafters and got together recently to make some bunting, they would very much like other people to join in and thought the group could be a variety of things – decided upon as we go along.

We made a start on the bunting that Val needs for her daughters wedding and thought the group could vary from one meeting to another. Quite a few of the villagers have said that they have a tapestry, or cross-stitch sampler unfinished. Others need some help with party decorations and it would also be nice to do a group project for charity.

Janice has recently taken up patchwork quilting again and her teacher from the Queens Park Arts centre in Aylesbury is happy to come along and oversee a group quilt. So whether its knitting, soft furnishings, whatever, it could all be included – anything welcome. So please please, don't be shy, and even if you have never done any kind of craft project before we can help you along. Its not about your skill level, more just a nice afternoon get together over tea and chat.

Contact either Val Smith or Janice Issitt (Janice is at 3 The Green 681464).

ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB

At our meeting on 21st April we discussed Anita Parker's selection 'Two Caravans' by Marina Lewycka. We all enjoyed this book that touches on the lives, hopes and loves of immigrant workers in this country - there were some quite sexy bits. We were sad that DOG didn't have a happy ending, but then in a way he did. You'll have to read the book to see what I mean.

The next book to read, chosen by John Hardcastle, is 'Moon Tiger' by Penelope Lively. Meet at John's house 8pm 19th May. (The book for June, selected by Alan Jones, is "To War with Whitaker' The Wartime Diaries of the Countess of Ranfurly 1939-45)

If you would like to join in the discussion/fun then please let me know. You will be very welcome.

If your a man who reads books please get in touch. There are only two of us at the moment. Ed

ELECTRICAL

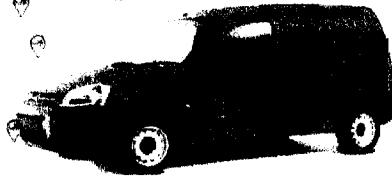
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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2010

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
WILL TAKE PLACE ON
WEDNESDAY 12TH
MAY at 8PM
IN THE CHURCH ROOM

AGENDA

1. **Apologies**
2. **To approve minutes of meeting held on 21st April 2009**
3. **Matters arising**
4. **County Council, District Council and Police reports**
5. **Annual report from the Parish Council Chairman**
6. **Village Plan Display and Update Presentation**
7. **Church Room**
8. **The Chronicle**
9. **Fete 2009**
10. **Fete 2010**
11. **A.O.B.**

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

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

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church.. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

**THIS IS YOUR VILLAGE
COME AND HAVE YOUR SAY**

ON THE VILLAGE PLAN

Some time ago you completed a questionnaire that asked for your opinions on the village. The object of this survey was to provide a framework for the future development and growth of the village so that it remains a viable, lively and successful community. The Working Group will present these findings at the **Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 12th May in the Church Room.**

In order to give you all an opportunity to view the results at your leisure, they will be displayed from 2 p.m. on the day of the meeting and the Working Group would be grateful for any comment, criticisms additional information that you might wish to make. To put you in a more relaxed and constructive frame of mind, a **free glass of wine and a few light snacks will be available from 6.30 p.m.** to liberate the tongue and aid your thought processes.

**THE CHURCH ROOM
ON THE 12 MAY**



**SATURDAY
3rd JULY**

**Coach leaving Aston
Abbotts at 7.00am to
return for 9.00pm 'ish'**

**come along with us on
a day trip to
EASTBOURNE**

Adults: £12.50 Children: £6.50

Contact: John Dixon ☎ 01296 681626

**We hope to call in at Amersham R B L Club
for a short break on the return journey**

ALLOTMENT DIARY

When I was at school (a year or two ago, now), one of the works I studied for English A level was Chaucer's Prologue to the Canterbury Tales. This begins with the words (translated into modern English)

"When that April with his showers sweet,

The drought of March hath piercéd to the root"

Chaucer was writing in the 14th Century, but this weather pattern has continued until the present time: even now the words "April" and "showers" go together like "Aylesbury" and "duck". However this year, something seems to have gone seriously wrong. March was rather wet, and far from April bringing showers, at the date when I am penning this piece, 22nd April, so far as I am aware, we have not seen a drop of rain this month. I am having to water the plants which I am planting in my allotment.

I don't know if this is the effect of global warming, or some other reason; and don't want to be a pessimist, but my experience as a gardener is that, year in, year out, we tend to get roughly the same amount of rain over the year. If we're not getting it now, I have a nasty feeling that we will get it sooner or later. Let's hope it does not happen in the summer.

To my delight, the last of last year's crops has at last started to bear fruit (so to speak); my purple sprouting broccoli has just started to sprout – to the chagrin of one of my neighbouring allotmentees, (who shall remain nameless), who gave his up as a bad job, and pulled all his broccoli plants up 2 or 3 weeks ago!

At the moment my allotment is looking at its best. Most of it has been rotavated by number 1 son, and I have now planted the first of my crops, so that the allotment is a picture of beautiful rotavated straight lines, and ridges and troughs where I have planted things. There is hardly a weed in sight; indeed (apart from the broccoli and leeks, and the sprouting raspberry canes) hardly anything green at all. However, it is all downhill from here. As the first sprouts of my vegetables appear, so will a haze produced by the shoots of the first weeds, and for the next few months the battle between me on the one hand and the weeds on the other will take place.

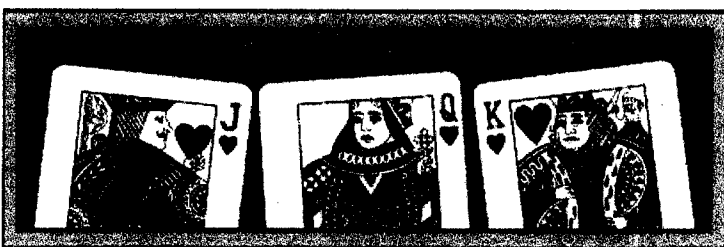
Finally two thoughts for the month: someone called Marina Schinz said that

"Gardening is an exercise in optimism. Sometimes it is the triumph of hope over experience"

While Capt. W. E. Johns (better known for writing the "Biggles" books which I devoured avidly in my childhood – although I can remember being a bit puzzled by the fact that in the earliest books like "Biggles & the Camel Squadron", he was flying in the 1st World War; whereas I am fairly sure I remember reading a late one in which he piloted a rocket ship: this seemed a remarkably long life!) wrote, more optimistically

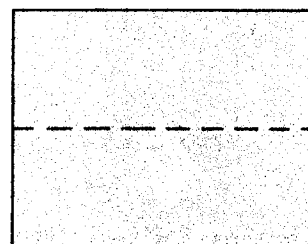
"One of the most delightful things about a garden is the anticipation it provides". Peter Shorrock

For Those Who Thought They Knew Everything



The King of Hearts is the only King without a moustache

No piece of paper can be
folded in half



More than seven (7) times.

High Speed Rail: Both AVDC and BCC have protested about the route chosen by the government. There will be a consultation on the White Paper before a final decision is made. All the local MPs are against the route which will run through some of the most beautiful parts of our county. The public packed the village hall at Quanton to hear John Bercow's views. There will be a special cabinet meeting on 12th April at 6.30 and a Special Council meeting in the Oculus at 6.30pm on 14th April.

Pot Holes: The teams are out every day doing their best to fill the thousands of holes. Unfortunately a lot of them have to have temporary fillings but eventually they will all be planed and finished. The government has announced that it will give local authorities £100 million to help with the total cost of £300 million to fill the nation's pot holes. When you consider that road users contribute £47bn to the Exchequer each year £100 million is not such a large sum as it sounds. It will be interesting to see how much of this money will come to Buckinghamshire! If you want to report a fault you can do so online. http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/transport/ea_Highways_On_Call.page.

Dealing with the Recession: Bucks County Council have a very useful page to guide people towards where help is available. Log on to: http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/community/recession_advice.page

Area 13 Speed Limit Review: BCC has recently announced the proposed changes to speed limits in our area. Although there are no changes proposed for Aston Abbots you might be interested in what is going on other parts of the County, in particular in Wingrave where it is proposed to reduce the speed limit to 30mph on Chiltern Road, Leighton Road and Winslow Road. The Order to bring about the changes can be inspected on line at buckscc.gov.uk/haveyoursay and at the Aylesbury Study Centre, County Offices, Walton St. Aylesbury during normal office hours. If anyone wishes to object they can email lwitney@buckscc.gov.uk quoting Area 13 or a form can be completed on line at the have your say site.

The Oculus: The new Conference Centre/Council chamber was officially opened on Friday evening. It is absolutely stunning and should bring in a lot of money from organisations who wish to hire it. All our Council meetings are open to the public so if you would like to see the new building feel free to come along to any of the council meetings or indeed the Development Control meetings. Next Council meeting is 27th April at 6.30 pm. Next Development Control is 22nd April at 1.00 pm and thereafter every three weeks.

Theatre: The theatre will open on 12th October with a performance of Swan Lake by the Northern Ballet Company. Other shows in the pipeline include Evita, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat to name a few. The box office opened on 24th March and tickets are selling fast. Log on to the website for more details - <http://www.ambassadortickets.com/aylesbury>.

Free Events in Aylesbury: There is a lot going on in Aylesbury to add to your fun while shopping. Don't forget the Farmers Market on the third Tuesday of the month where you can buy locally grown vegetables, wonderful cheeses, scrumptious pies all cooked by the stall holders. Guides to the events are available from Diana Fawcett on 01296 585880 or can be downloaded at: www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/aylesburyevents.

Advertising on the Web: AVDC is asking residents whether they should go for paid advertising on the web site. If it comes off it will bring in a bit of useful money. To take part in the consultation log on to: http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/sites/bcc/community/recession_advice.page

Netta Glover



The proposed route of the new high-speed rail link between Birmingham and London poses a potentially devastating threat to the quality of life of people in the Buckingham constituency.

Many constituents have already raised their strong concerns about noise pollution, visual blight, environmental damage and the impact upon property values. I share these concerns and have already raised them with the Secretary of State for Transport, Lord Adonis, at a head-to-head meeting in Speaker's House last week.

At my request Lord Adonis has made a commitment on behalf of the Government to visit areas along the proposed route in the Buckingham constituency and to address a public meeting after the General Election. I am meeting with the Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, Theresa Villiers, this Wednesday and I will seek the same commitment from her.

Lord Adonis assured me that the route was not a foregone conclusion and part of the consultation process is to decide whether the correct route has been selected. I, for one, do not believe that this route is appropriate and I think that there would be significant merit in further examination of upgrading the existing line instead of cutting across swathes of beautiful and unspoilt countryside.

The other purpose of the consultation is to ensure that if the proposed route is ultimately confirmed sufficient mitigations are put in place to minimise the effect of the line on local communities. At present it appears that significant consideration has been given to mitigations in the Chilterns AONB but I am concerned that the same level of consideration has not yet been given to the stretch of the line north of Aylesbury.

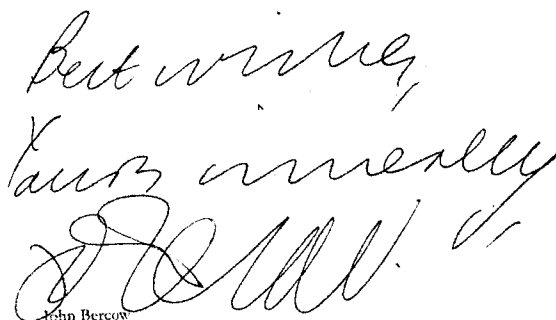
Rt. Hon. John Bercow MP
Buckingham

Speaker's House, London SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 6346 Email: bercowj@parliament.uk

The current plans provide no real benefits for our region, whilst reducing the journey time between Birmingham and London by only 20 minutes at a cost of between £15.8 and £17.4 billion. This leaves us with a number of questions. Would it be possible to have a station en route to provide a link to Milton Keynes and Oxford? Might there be a link to the south to connect us directly with Heathrow Airport? Is it appropriate to be making such a massive financial investment at this time, especially one which benefits certain communities but disadvantages many more?

We need to formulate a co-ordinated approach to ensure that our views are heard loudly and clearly. As I said to the public meeting at Quanton on Saturday evening, I will represent local views as vociferously as possible for as long as necessary to secure the rethink that Aylesbury Vale needs.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can be of assistance to you on this issue, or any other.



John Bercow

OAK FARM HOUSE - A HISTORY

Although the village of Aston Abbots is the best part of a thousand years old there are only a few buildings which date back in part to as early as the 16th or 17th Centuries. These are The Royal Oak Inn, Church Farm House, Number 1 The Green (Bob & Francesca's house), and my house, Oak Farm House. (Although The Abbey and Lower Burston Farmhouse stand on the sites of much earlier establishments, the present buildings – although possibly incorporating material from earlier buildings - only date from the 18th or 19th Centuries).

My house is, as its name suggests, an old farmhouse, and as is common with farm houses, the original building has been much added to over the years, to meet the needs of the family living in it. There is attached to this article, a plan showing when it is thought the various parts of the house were built. The oldest part is that into which you enter if you go in through the front door, which is shown un-hatched on the plan. This was originally a two bay cottage, with a hole in the roof through which the smoke from a central fire would have escaped. We are fairly sure about this, since when work was done on the roof, it was discovered that the central roof timbers were blackened by soot. We cannot be certain if the date when the original cottage was built but it would have been in the 15th or 16th Centuries. We are fairly certain that the cottage was originally half-timbered, and that the present brick walls were built as a brick skin outside the original walls.

There are two reasons for asserting this: the first is that if you look at the front wall to the left of the front door, you will see a curious straight vertical line in the mortared joints of the brickwork, and I am fairly certain that this must have coincided with one the original timber upright posts in the old wall. The second is that when we bought the house, we found that the ceiling joists in the room into which you enter through the front door were supported on each of the side walls by planks nailed on to the walls – and in the case of the wall opposite the front door, this plank had partly collapsed, leaving the joists resting on the frame of the door in the opposite wall. (And the ceiling height at this point was less than 6 feet!)

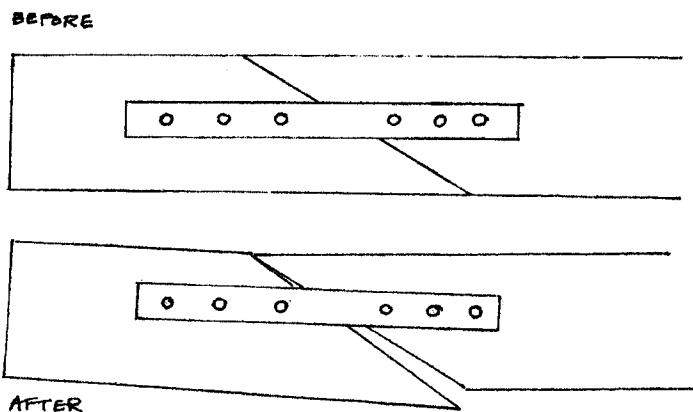
Clearly no-one would have built a house with the joists being supported by planks nailed on to the walls, and we are pretty sure that what happened was that the original walls were of a timber frame, probably with daub and wattle filling; and that over time the wood began to rot and deteriorate, and were augmented by the brick walls that are there today. However the joists only went from the central beam to the top of the old walls, and when these were so rotten that they had to be removed, the joists had nothing to support them – hence the addition of the planks referred to above.

The next thing that happened was that the owners of the house at some time towards the end of the 16th Century extended the house by a further half bay – depicted by horizontal hatching on the plan. Then during the next 50 years or so they built a kitchen extension at right angles to the original building; and installed one of the (then) new-fangled inglenook fireplaces – both shown by vertical hatching on the plan. The new fireplace meant that the smoke from the fire could go up the new chimney, and did not have to exit through a hole in the roof, which must have been a great improvement. No longer was the room full of smoke during the winter months, but it was not liable to have rain and snow entering through the hole in the roof all year round.

When our predecessors, Mr. & Mrs. Boothman bought the house in 1956, this inglenook fireplace was totally covered up, and a modern fireplace had been built in front of it. Although he was an architect, Mr Boothman was strangely uncurious about this and was happy to leave things as they were. However, his sons were convinced that there had to be an earlier fireplace behind the modern one, and one day when their father was out all day, they attacked the modern fireplace with a sledgehammer and other implements; and by the time their father returned in the evening, the inglenook fireplace had (fortunately for his sons) been exposed. They were very puzzled by the fact that when they looked up the chimney, they could see what appeared to be the remains of a bicycle wedged in it. They eventually got this down; and it turned out not to be a bicycle, but the remains of a clockwork spit mechanism, probably installed in the 19th Century. Unfortunately it was in a terribly rusty condition, and although we did inherit part of it, it was so damaged as not to be worth keeping.

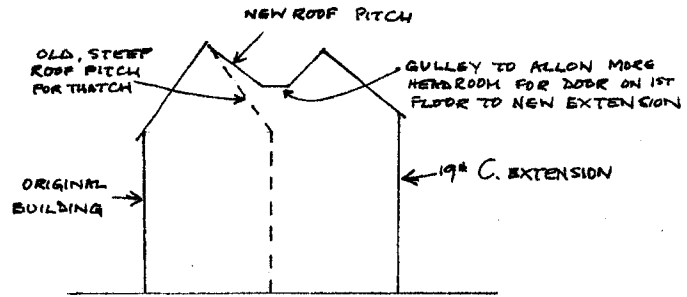
Next, during the 17th Century, the owners decided to widen the kitchen extension. (You can see the original width of the building from the half-timbering still visible on the outside of the end wall). The widening is depicted on the plan by horizontal & vertical cross-hatching, (see next page) and you will notice, includes a second inglenook fireplace. The widening of the extension would not have been a problem were it not for the fact that there was a large timber beam running sideways across the original kitchen. This of course was supported on the old side walls. When these were no longer available, the owners supported the beam at one end by a vertical strut, which was still there when we bought the house; and at the other end by what is, I believe, called a "scarf joint", together with a metal strap made by the local blacksmith on either side – see diagram opposite. Such a joint is pretty inefficient, but will suffice to do one of the jobs that such a beam does, which is to tie together the two new side walls. However, either then or at some later date, someone built a brick chimney and fireplace in the space between the position of the old wall and the new one, in the position marked by a cross on the plan. The result was that the scarf joint also had to support the immense weight of this brick structure, which it was barely able to do. When we bought, the joint had collapsed to such an extent that the headroom below the beam at this point was about 5 feet 9 inches – whereas at the opposite end it was still around 6 feet 3 inches.

In the 18th Century, a three storey extension was added, in the position shown by diagonal hatching from bottom left to top right. The bottom room was used as a dairy, and in order to keep it cool, the floor level was about 4 feet below ground level. While the building was used as a dairy, I imagine this probably worked well, since the entrance door would probably have been open most of the time, and the room would have been well aired. However, once the room began to be used as part of a normal domestic house, with doors and windows closed, the fact that the floor was below ground level became a serious problem, since the bottom 4 feet of the wall were soaked through with damp from the earth around them, and when we acquired the house the floor of this room and the bottom part of the walls were very damp and covered in green slime. We had to do two things fairly urgently: raise the floor level, and reduce the ground level outside, so that the floor was above the surrounding soil. (Since we wanted the floor to be carpeted, we



also took up the old dairy flagstones, and these now form part of the patio outside).

The 19th Century saw the last major extension to the house: the two storey part of the building shown by diagonal cross hatching from top left to bottom right. The upper part of this caused an interesting change to the external appearance of the house. The original house was thatched. When this extension was built the eaves level of the roof on the side of the extension was so low that it was impossible to get from the old part of the house to the new. The builders therefore had to change the pitch of the roof, so that the eaves level was high enough to allow them to put in a connecting door. If you will look at the section opposite, you will see what was done. However, thatch will only work to allow rain water to run off if the pitch is steep enough; if the pitch is too shallow, water will percolate through the thatch. The reduced pitch of the new roof meant that they had to construct the roof in some other material, and consequently this roof slope is now tiled, with the thatch going over the ridge, but then stopping after 2 or 3 feet or so. (Another consequence was that the purlin in the old changed roof had to support a far greater weight and different stresses to those for which it was designed, and this broke and had to be strengthened by bolting on a large iron support. We have now had additional struts put in the roof so that the purlin is supporting as little weight as possible).

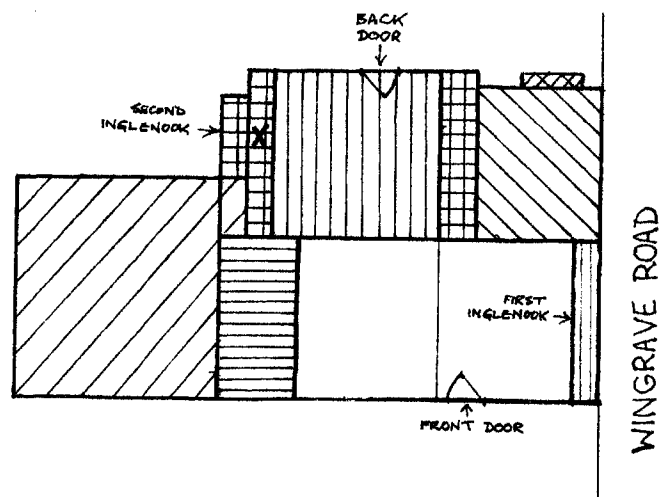









Finally, in the 20th Century, a decorative bay window was added to the ground floor of the 19th C extension – shown on the plan by diagonal cross-hatching. Since my late wife and I acquired the house 13 years ago, we have not changed the exterior much: we have added some windows in different positions, and added a couple of French windows, and that is about it. Inside we have changed the position on the staircase in the hall, so as to make access easier on the landing; we have changed slightly the internal partitions of two of the rooms on the ground floor; installed a new green-oak beam in the kitchen (which now goes from wall to wall), and an RSJ in the lower dairy room to replace the old oak beam, which was riddled with woodworm and death watch beetle. (Unfortunately we could not find a new oak beam long enough to replace it). And we have generally strengthened the structure in various places, in the hope that the house will last for another 400/500 years.

Most of the information given above came from our surveyor, who was passionately interested in old buildings, and spent a lot of time, at his own expense, working out how the different parts of the house fitted together, and what their ages were. Unfortunately, there are no title deeds which help: the title is registered, and the pre-registration deeds have long since been thrown away. I have mentioned some of the reasons why we know the age of various parts of the building. Some other things that may be of interest are:-

- When the roof had to be re-thatched, part of it was in such bad condition that the thatcher had to go down to the original rafters. (This is unusual: normally the top few inches of thatch are removed, and the new thatch is then laid on top of the remainder). He discovered that the original straw was tied on to the rafters by leather thongs, which had been soaked in tar – which is how thatch would have been fastened in the 15th/16th Centuries.
- Most of the brickwork on the outside of the house is laid in Flemish Bond – i.e. using alternate headers and stretchers. This style spread across England during the middle of the 17th Century. The brickwork of the three storey extension at the rear is in Flemish Bond, with the header bricks largely being over-burnt (and therefore being a blue colour). This style became popular in the late 18th and 19th Centuries, before being replaced by other forms of brick bonding.

- When we were doing some work on the ceiling in the room into which you enter when you come through the front door (which you will remember is the oldest part of the house), we discovered that some paper had been used to pad out the gap between a hole in the central beam and one of the joists that was fixed into it. This paper was a scrap of hand-printed wall-paper. We took the paper to Aylesbury museum, who got very excited, and informed us that it was a piece of block-printed wall-paper, probably made in the late 16th Century. They sent us a photograph, taken from a textbook on wallpaper design, showing the same wallpaper. This of course helps to confirm that the original house was built before the end of the 16th Century.



-  Original half-timbered hall house circa 15th/16th Century
-  Additional half-bay extension circa 16th Century
-  Kitchen extension and inglenook fireplace circa 16th/ early 17th Century
-  Widening of kitchen and second inglenook circa 17th Century
-  Three-storey 18th Century addition, with ground floor dairy
-  19th Century extension
-  Early 20th Century bay window

PLAN OF OAK FARM HOUSE SHOWING EXTENSIONS AND ALTERATIONS SINCE 16TH CENTURY

I'm sorry if any of you think I have gone on too long about my house, but, as you can tell I am fascinated by its development over the centuries, and I hope some of you will share my enthusiasm.

Peter Shorrock

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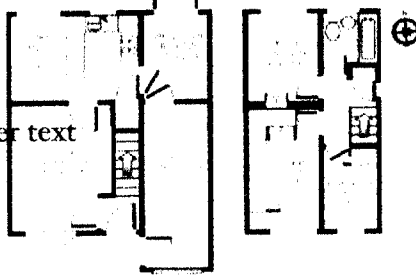
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Aston Abbotts Parish Council

Parish Meeting

Wednesday 7th April 2010

Present: - Cllrs. C Higgs (Chair), D Dicken, Mrs K Curry, P Shorrocks, Mrs J Hardcastle, J Perkins, R Clarke and P Bruton (Clerk).
County Councillor Ms N Glover, Ms Sarah Allwood (Bucks. Community Action) and one member were in attendance.
Cllr Higgs on behalf of Council welcomed Cllr Perkins to the Parish Council.

Matters arising not on the Agenda - Cllr. Curry asked whether there was any progress regarding the replacement Notice Board on the Bus Shelter. Cllr Higgs advised that it would require a new one and as there were repairs required to the Parish Notice Board, Cllr Dicken would obtain the necessary quotations.

Correspondence to note – The Clerk advised that the AVDC freighter service dates for 2010 were 11th May and 16th November. The location would be The Green between 12 noon and 3:30pm.

The Clerk on behalf of Council thanked County Councillor Glover for her donation towards the replacement recreation ground fencing that had been received.

The Clerk read out and distributed correspondence received from the Rt Hon John Bercow and AVDC regarding the High Speed 2 rail link. It was agreed that Council would meet again before the consultation closing date of the 20th May to consider it's response.

It was noted the Mobile Library Service times had changed and the revised times would take effect from the 1st June 2010 and were: Alternate Tuesdays 10:30 to 10:45.

Council had received notification of a Temporary Traffic regulation order advising that 20 – 62 High Street, Weedon would be closed from the 1st June to 9th July to enable Electricity works to take place.

The Clerk read out a letter received from a resident regarding the Speed limit extensions and were in general agreement with the observations, particularly the problem of speeding traffic exiting and entering the Village. It was noted that when we had appealed for volunteers in the Chronicle for the manning of a SID (Speed indication device) for a speeding review there had been no response from residents. It was AGREED that the Clerk would acknowledge the letter and contact the Police to see if it was possible for more regular speed checks at peak hours to be carried out.

County Council, District and matters - County Councillor Glover gave an overview of items that she felt were of interest to Parishioners and details would be passed to the Chronicle for inclusion in the next issue. Highways were continuing to tackle the issue of Pot Holes and more funding was anticipated to help with the issue.

Village Plan – Ms Sarah Allwood from Bucks. Community Action addressed the meeting to advise that she was there to help us complete our Village Plan, and handed out a Planning toolkit. Additionally we were able to review a Village Plan prepared by another village in Bucks of a similar size to ours. The meeting felt that we should make a concerted effort to complete the work and to this end it was AGREED to convene a meeting of the Sub Committee at the earliest opportunity and the Clerk would write to Mr Elwood to ensure he had the time to bring the document to a conclusion and if so by what date. Ms Allwood would also contact Mr Elwood direct to offer her assistance as it really was in our interest to complete the Plan. It was also AGREED to hold a display at the Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for the 12th May on the result of the questionnaire and present to Villagers the progress to date, Ms Allwood agreed to assist with this and provide any presentation material that may be required.

Village Fete - Cllr Perkins advised that the Fete Committee had requested use of the Recreation Ground for Car Parking on the day of the Fete. It was RESOLVED to permit the use as requested, it should be noted that vehicles will be parked at owner's risk and perhaps a notice to this effect should be displayed at the entrance.

Annual Parish Meeting – The draft Agenda for the meeting on the 12th May was circulated and amended as necessary. The Agenda would be circulated and the date would be included in the Chronicle.

Local Area Forum - Cllr Hardcastle advised that the next meeting of the Forum was scheduled for the 29th April and unfortunately she would be unable to attend. The meeting would be discussing the Delegated Budget bids and as a result it was important we attended. Cllrs. Clarke and Curry agreed to attend and would agree the arrangements.

Street Light upgrades – The Clerk had received a location map of the lights requiring upgrades and after discussion it was RESOLVED to proceed with the upgrade to the 5 lights along Wingrave Road as this was the walking route to the Bus stops in the Village. The remaining lights were to be budgeted for in 2011.

Recreation Ground - The monthly inspections had been carried out and there was nothing to report. The new fencing work had been completed although there was a small adjustment required to the gate and this was in hand. The Clerk would complete the Community Funding paperwork and write to the Game Club who had also kindly donated some monies for the works..

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th May 2010 at 8pm in the Church Room.

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An extract from the 100th edition - April 1992. I don't think this Toad migration happens anymore - the ponds on my 'Wild Bit' have no frogs or toads. Where have they gone? *Ed*

HELP A TOAD OVER THE ROAD

(This article arrived too late for the March issue, which is when the toads are really on the move in Moat Lane, but there may still be some about - please take care when driving up the Lane after dark - Editor)

For more years than I care to remember my family and I have done what we call "Toad Picking". Buckets wellies macks (it's usually a wet night) we set off several times a night for as long as they're making for the moat.

It gets more dangerous each year for us with the amount of traffic using Moat Lane, but more so for the toads. I do hope some of the young people in the village will try to help them over. Most go over when it's dark - we make a point of going about 10pm before the pubs turn out. You will need a good torch so that you can be seen, a bucket to carry them in and plastic gloves or bags on your hands as the ditch where they come up isn't called the sewer ditch for any other reason. Tip them in opposite the Windmill Farm.

Many villages have built toad tunnels - most come up the sewer ditch so a tunnel there would save a lot of them. I will try to find out if there is help to fund and build one.

GWEN KEMPSTER

Ponder on these imponderables for a minute:-

1. If you take an Oriental person and spin him around several times, does he become disoriented?
2. If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes?
3. Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
4. If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?
5. If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
6. Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?
7. When cheese gets its picture taken, what does it say?
8. Why is a person who plays the piano called a pianist but a person who drives a racing car not called a racist?
9. Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?
10. Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?

VILLAGE FETE

After a successful fete meeting, a reminder, please, to all! to start collecting for the fete, plant a few extra pots for the flower stall, save your bric a brac!

Any offers of help on or before the day would be very welcome

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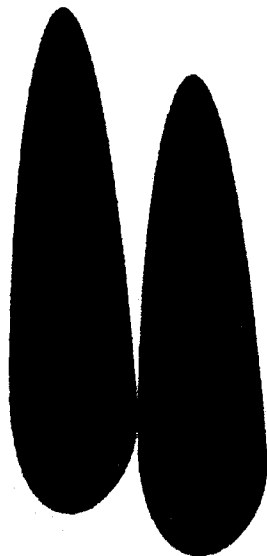
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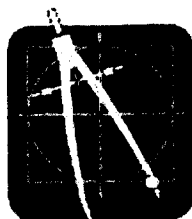
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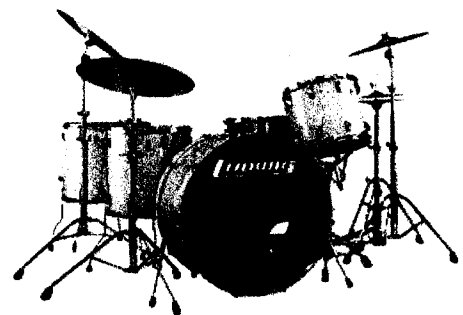
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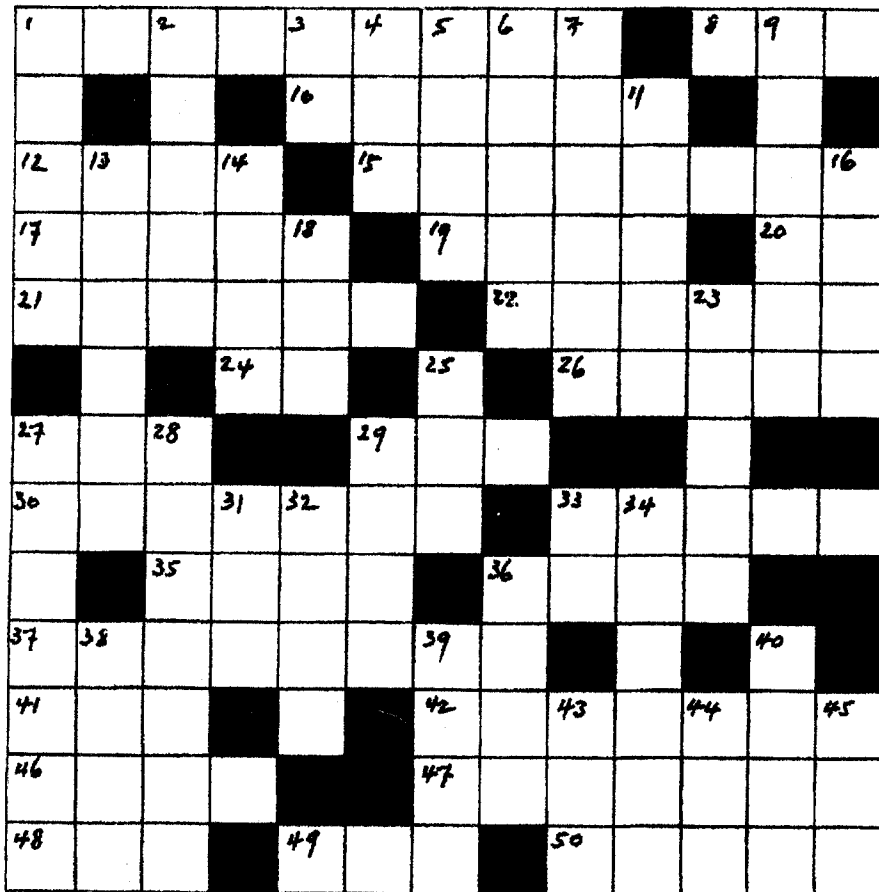
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Aston Abbotts

This is the Crossword that appeared in the 200th Edition April 2001 - see if you can complete it. Don Bellingham produced a crossword every month for many years. I recall that Peter Knight mentioned, during his eulogy at Don's funeral in St James Church, that he looked forward to doing Don's crosswords and went on to comment, with great affection, that he had no idea there were so many two letter words in the English language. *Ed solution on page 23*

The Chronicle Crossword

April 2001



Answers March ACROSS

1 Brill. 5 Beading. 11 Lana. 12 Bonfire. 13 Anchor. 15 Etna. 17 Honour. 18 Etch. 19 Cher. 21 Gore. 23 Hoax. 24 Heed. 26 Festivity. 29 Martin. 30 Mo. 31 Arson. 33 IC. 34 Find. 36 Song. 37 Bat. 39 Its. 40 Adamant. 42 Only. 43 Tibet. 44. Deny. 45 End

DOWN: 1 Blanch. 2 Ran. 3 Inches. 4 Lahore. 5 BO. 6 Energetic. 7 Aft 8 Diner. 9 Irate. 10 NE. 12 Brother. 14 On. 16 Shaky. 20 Hovers. 22 Odin. 25 Estimate. 26 Fangs. 27 Imitate. 28 Ton. 29 Monty. 32 Solls. 34 Fame. 35 Dated. 37 Baby. 39 Joy. 41 Din.

ACROSS

- 1. WW1 bomber (9)
- 8. London Symphony Orchestra (abbr 3)
- 10. Spoiled (6)
- 12. Den (4)
- 15. Amazing, great (8)
- 17. Fire raising (5)
- 19. Retain (4)
- 20. Barrister USA (2)
- 21. Pancakes (6)
- 22. Rushed (6)
- 24. Extra terrestrial
- 26. Entrances to rooms (5)
- 27. Eggs (3)
- 29. Road material (3)

30. FINE BET (anag 7)

- 33. Large birds (5)
- 35. Girl's name (4)
- 36. Small plant (4)
- 37. Gambling game (8)
- 41. Russian Astronaut. Christian name (3)
- 42. Brought about (7)
- 46. Fruit (4)
- 47. Ilkept, shabby (7)
- 48 Cathedral town (3)
- 49. --- Maria (3)
- 50. Main artery (5)

DOWN

- 1. Shrub/small tree (5)
- 2. Din (3)
- 3. Before noon (2)

4. Rested (3)

- 5. Arduous journey (4)
- 6. Made a mistake (5)
- 7. ARE RED (anag 6)
- 9. Arachnid (6)
- 11. Drunkard (5)
- 13. To come (6)
- 14. PORE (anag 4)
- 16 Rotters (4)
- 18. Mesh (3)
- 23. Made with drill (5)
- 25. Rug (3)
- 27. TORE BUD (anag 7)
- 28. Regular payment (7)
- 29. Lean (4)
- 31 Fish (3)

32. Escaped (4)

- 33 Depart (2)
- 34. Portugese currency (6)
- 36. Bill of fare (4)
- 38. Spoken (4)
- 39. To weary (4)
- 40. Eft (4)
- 43. DAN (anag 3)
- 44. ___ blimey ! (3)
- 45. Same as 43 (3)

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**Ponder on these imponderables
for another moment**

11. Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety one?

12. 'I am' is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that 'I do' is the longest sentence?

13. If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

14. What hair colour do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?

15. I thought about how mothers feed their babies with tiny little spoons and forks so I wondered what do Chinese mothers use? Toothpicks?

16. Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the postmen can look for them while they deliver the mail?

17. You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive. (my fav)

18. No one ever says, 'It's only a game' when their team is winning.

19. Ever wonder about those people who spend £1.50 apiece on those little bottles of Evian water? Try spelling Evian backwards: NAIVE

RACE FOR LIFE

Saturday 6th June 2010

It's come round again really quickly and myself and Dawn James (from Chapman's Lea) have signed up to take part in this year's Race for Life Event on Saturday 6th June 2010. It was such an inspiring event last year that we couldn't NOT take part this year! Its for such a fantastic cause.

Last year, many of you kindly supported myself, Jane Hall and Helen Carless from Aston Abbots, who took part and between us we raised a fantastic amount of money for Cancer Research.

If any of you feel able to sponsor us again this time, or if any of you didn't get a chance to last year but would like to sponsor us this year, we would be very, very grateful for your support, no matter how small.

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29th - 31st May Bank Holiday

- full details: [http://](http://www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk)

www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk

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Specialising in a wide range of homemade food. Serving breakfast, lunch and afternoon teas.

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A large range of home cooked ready meals both fresh and frozen always available. Also wine, beers, pickles, chutneys, jams and general groceries. Buffet and Dinner Party menus for made to order meals.

Trading Hours

Café: Tuesday to Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Saturday 8.30am – 3.00pm

Shop: Tuesday to Friday 8.30am-6.30pm

Saturday 8.30am – 4.00pm

We have created a kitchen garden so we can use freshly picked vegetables and herbs for are soups and salads.

Antiques Bric a Brac and Books for sale in our barn.

Coming soon

Additional trading hours

Fridays—Commencing 16th October

Licensed cafe will be offering an Evening menu including children's selection until 7.30pm

Mondays—Commencing 16th November

Cafe 8.30am—2.30pm

Shop 8.30am—3.00pm



Waddesdon

Country Show A family day out!

Thousands of people from Buckinghamshire and surrounding counties attend this annual event which is organised by the Bucks Federation of Young Farmers. The Country Show is a fun-filled, action packed day for all visitors. The one day show has fantastic main ring attractions, demonstrations, a farmers market, pets corner and livestock to see.

For further information call: 01296 631034.

One Day Event **5 Jun 2010**

Bucks Open Studios

12 - 27 June 2010.

Our 25th anniversary year. The biggest visual arts events in the County - over 150 venues, with more than 300 artists and makers exhibiting their work in studios & galleries. See a huge spectrum of art & craft forms, with many venues offering demonstrations and a chance to meet the makers and artists. Free entry to all venues. See our website for more details and to sign up for our newsletters - www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk, or pick up our free directory from libraries, tourist information centres and art galleries from late May.

For further information call 01296 614283 or email

vi-group@btconnect.com.

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

Wingrave & District

Village Hall

ASTON

ABBOTTS

BINGO

Saturday

8th May 2010

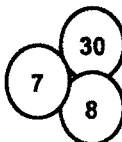
7.30pm Start



REFRESHMENTS

LINE & HOUSE PRIZES RAFFLE

In aid of Branch Funds



Solution to Crossword on page 15

Answers to April

ACROSS: 1 Lancaster. 8 LSO. 10 Marred. 12 Lair. 15 Terrific. 17 Arson. 19 Keep. 20 DA. 21 Crepes. 22 Dashed. 24 ET. 26 Doors. 27 Ova. 29 Tar. 30 Benefit. 33 Geese. 35 Nell. 36 Moss. 37 Roulette. 41 Uri. 42 Induced. 46 Date. 47 Run-down. 48 Ely. 49 Ave. 50 Aorta.

DOWN: 1 Lilac. 2 Noise. 3 Am. 4 Sat. 5 Trek. 6 Erred. 7 Rercad. 8. Spider. 11 Dipso. 13 Arrive. 14 Rope. 16 Cads. 18 Net. 23 Holes. 25 Mat. 27 Obtrude. 28 Annuity. 29 Tilt. 31 Eel. 32 Fled. 33 Go. 34 Escudo. 36 Menu. 38 Oral. 39 Tire. 40 Newt. 43 DNA. 44 Cor. 45 DNA.

“We are delighted to welcome you to 4beauty”



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- St Tropez Tanning
- PhD Waxing
- Brazilian Waxing
- Eyelash Extensions
- Thai Massage
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- Wedding Packages
- Mothers To Be Packages
- Special Occasion Makeup using Virgin Vie Cosmetics

We also provide Specialist Clinics:

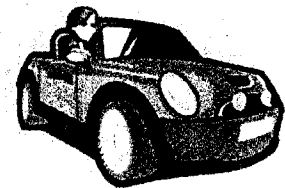
- Botox
- Non-Surgical Facial Fillers
- Semi Permanent Makeup

Opening Times:

Monday	11:00am - 5:00pm
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

4beauty

4beauty Ltd, 56 High Street,
Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire,
HP22 4JS
T. 01296 640644
www.4-beauty.com



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 2010

May 13th Sue Cato 'Fundraising can be such fun'

May 27th Peter Knight
'A talk on various subjects with humour'!!

June 10th Ann Severn 'More readings to make you smile'

June 24th Edwin Rye 'Colour and David Austin Roses'

Ladies Club – Thurs. 1st April

14 members and two visitors were present at today's meeting in the church room Aston Abbots.

The Chairman welcomed everybody and the minutes were read and approved.

April Curnow explained to the meeting that our summer outing to Kelmscott House has had to be postponed until July 2011 as it is fully booked for this year and Avril Bradley Davis informed us that our spring lunch will be held on the 15th of April. Plans and costs were discussed.

Our Speaker today was Valerie Carroll and she had written a book called 'A footman in Buckingham Palace'. This had come about because she had met an Irish gentleman called John who told her of his life as a Valet to Winston Churchill and then Footman to the then newly married Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip.

A vote of thanks was given by June Brine.

Our tea hostesses today were April Curnow and Margaret Hinds.

Shirley Ford

Please help us raise some cash for essential church repairs by joining the 100 Club.

for an initial payment of £15 you will be included in 12 monthly draws with the possibility of winning a prize (amount subject to 100 people taking part).

The first draw will take place on 6th June (in St James Church) with the subsequent eleven draws taking place on the first sunday of each month.

If you would like to take part send money to Colin Higgs, 6 Wingrave Road tel 681343

RECREATION AREA It is pleasing to report that the play area on the Recreation Ground has new fencing thanks in part to a donation from the AVDC Community Chest Fund. The donation came via The Game Club, County Councillor Netta Glover and the Community Chest, a grants scheme for community projects run jointly by AVDC and VAHT. If you would like more information about the grants available please call the Community Chest Grants Officer, Sarah Rothwell on 01296 585634.



Jason Tomlinson
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Livanti Alpacas, Aston Abbots – Home to Champions

from James Perkins

You may vaguely remember who I am; I'm the guy who ran the race night to raise money for the Church last year, I live at 81 The Green with Hannah (Bridget's Daughter).

I am now intending to hold a Summer Ball in the village, after the Fete, to raise money for village causes, and hope as many of you as possible will support this grand event.

ASTON ABBOTTS SUMMER BALL

Ladies and Gentlemen dust off your best frocks (That includes you Tony.H!) because on

**Saturday 24th July
2010 Aston Abbotts
will be holding a
Summer Ball**

The idea of an event in the evening after the fete has been something I have rambled on about for quite a while. My thought is that a lot of effort goes into the fete and it would be nice to end the day with an evening event for all to celebrate the success of the day. So on Wednesday evening I went to the fete meeting with this suggestion and they thought it an excellent idea.

So roughly here is the plan. I have hired a large marquee, a great band has been booked, catering has been ordered, we have a funny looking DJ - so all we need now is people to start buying tickets. Tickets are priced at £35 a person which includes a fantastic buffet.

All profits from this event will go to the village.

Tickets will be available from myself at 81 The Green, April Curnow at Leafy Oaks and the Royal Oak.

I look forward to updating you on more details on the event in the future.

**Next meeting for the Fete is on 9th
June at 8pm in Church Room.**

Please come and support us (we need it)
We need you!

We are looking for offers of help with putting out the signs two weeks before
Volunteers to help on the day

We will be handing out batches of raffle tickets and hoping that the people that delivered them for us last year would be willing to do so again this year, or can they let us know if they can't help this year please

Please start making cakes and potting up your plants for the stalls and putting your bric a brac to one side for collection in the week commencing 12th July

See you all on Wed 9th June at 8pm
Thank you Vanessa (688429) and Tracy (688479)



PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER

www.pactcharity.org

**Have YOU ever thought
about FOSTERING?**

There is a recognised shortage of 10,000 Foster Carers in the UK. PACT (Parents And Children Together), founded in 1911, is also known as the Oxford Diocesan Council for Social Work inc. We are a registered charity working to improve life chances for children. The focus of our work is within Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire and aims to build and strengthen families.

We are an approved Adoption and Fostering Agency. We have a history of finding safe, loving families for children in care. Here are a few facts about Fostering:

1. Did you know you don't have to be married to become a Foster Carer?
2. You don't have to have children already although you do need to have experience of caring for children.
3. Did you know you get paid a Fostering Allowance of £335.70 a week to be a Foster Carer which is tax free and won't affect any other benefits?
4. Most of the children who need fostering are known as 'hard to place' children, they will usually be 8+ years of age.

Fostering is a hard but very rewarding job. If you think you might have what it takes to become a Permanent Foster Carer or you want to find out more then contact PACT now on 0800 731 1845 e-mail fostering@pactcharity.org or visit www.pactcharity.org

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07944 509438 or

Aylesbury (01296) 688547

ASTON ABBOTTS
SUMMER BALL UPDATE

ASTON ABBOTTS SUMMER BALL

Saturday 24th July

Dress - Black Tie & Tiara

LIVE MUSIC & DJ
SUMPTUOUS GOURMET BUFFET
BAR & ATTRACTIONS

£35 per person

Tickets available from

The Royal Oak 01296 681262 | James Perkins 07882 980415

I don't know if you have ever had that feeling where you believe you might have bit off more than you can chew! After all Aston Abbots is a bit a Mecca when it comes to this sort of thing. With Astonbury, Harvest Festival, Cabaret night and St Georges etc the bar is set high! But as many of you know when it comes to Bars I have a lot of experience (See what I did there!)

Anyway I have managed to gather some chums and family members who are willing to help me make this a night to remember for all who attend.

So onto some details. Firstly the venue, the Summer Ball is going to held in the paddock on the corner of Wingrave Road just past the Allotments. My thanks go to the land owners Mr & Mrs Page who have kindly agreed for the event to go ahead on their land.

The format of the Ball will be drinks, food, drinks, dancing and drinks (Have you noticed

the common theme). The food will be a fabulous 2 – course buffet which reminds me of something. Tables will be arranged to seat groups of ten and are available to be reserved beforehand. To reserve a table I will need to be given a name of a person as the head of the table and the names of the other nine people seating on your table. I'm afraid I will be unable to reserve a table unless you have ten people so that I can maximise numbers.

Tickets I am pleased to report are selling well with 50% of my now legal limit sold. So if you are planning on attending Aston Abbots most glamorous social event of the year please speak to either myself (81 The Green – 07882 980415), April Curnow or go to the Royal Oak where tickets are behind the bar. I would also like to add that this is very much open to all, I know that sometimes village events can seem a bit "clicky" but this is your opportunity to join in so why not get a table with maybe friends or family and join in the fun.

Finally I am pleased to announce that **THE GROOVE** will be providing the live music for the evening. I am over the moon that they have agreed to play as they are one of the best covers band I have ever seen. The five piece band with both male and female vocals are exceptional and will be sure to get the Marquee rocking with hits from the 60's to present day.

Well that's it from me for now. Have a great May!

James

WINGRAVE GARAGE

Terry Bracey-Wright & Michael Mitchell
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Service@wycombe.gov.uk

BOOKING EVENTS Pricing: £ 4 adult, £2 concessions £10 family ticket

May

Sunday 2nd Signs of Spring Walk – Gomm's Wood LNR, High Wycombe A chance to enjoy spring flowers such as violets, celandines and helleborines in this fantastic woodland. Keep an ear out for spring migrants like Chiffchaff singing in the coppice areas. **Meet: 10am** Cock Lane Cemetery Car Park, Tylers Green, High Wycombe HP10 8DS (Grid Ref: SU895936).

Saturday 15th Annual Birdathon – Spade Oak Nature Reserve, Little Marlow. This time of the year provides great bird watching while the birds are busy nesting and most migrants have arrived. Bring binoculars if you have them, a spotting scope will be provided. Waterproofs and sturdy footwear are advisable. Approx 3 miles taking 2-3 hours.

Meet: 9am Spade Oak Public Car Park, Coldmoorholme Lane, (off A4155), Bourne End, SL8 5PS (Grid Ref: SU884876). **BOOKING EVENT**

Saturday 15th Night Time Exploration at Sands Bank LNR, High Wycombe

Come and join the Rangers on National Moth Night as we discover the sights and sounds of this site as the light fades. We will have a moth trap running and bat detectors on hand to pick up any nocturnal goings on. Please note that the site is on a steep bank & please bring along a torch if you have one.

Meet: 8.00pm at the entrance to Wycombe Wanderers FC, Hillbottom Road, Sands, High Wycombe HP12 4HJ (Grid Ref: SU832932).

Friday 21st Evening Stroll along the Thames – Marlow.

Come along for this evening walk by the river. An opportunity to relax after a week at work and to see the river in a different light. There are no steep climbs and the walk is approximately five miles in length. **Meet: 7pm** at the entrance to Court Gardens Leisure Centre, Pound Lane, Marlow SL7 2AE (Grid Ref: SU848862) NB Pay & Display Car Park.

Sunday 23rd

Brush Hill LNR, Princes Risborough Monthly Work Party - Chalk Grassland Restoration Project. Help us extend this valuable habitat for wildflowers, invertebrates and much more. **Meet: 10am** Whiteleaf Cross Public Car Park, Peter's Lane, Princes Risborough, HP27 0LQ (Grid Ref: SP822035).

Monday 31st 'Picnic in the Meadow' National Family Week Event - Funges Meadow, High Wycombe.

Join a Ranger at this tranquil nature reserve, close to the heart of the town for a Bank Holiday picnic plus activities for the kids including pond dipping, bug hunting, a nature quiz and much more!

Meet: 11am at Funges Meadow Nature Reserve at the end of Bowden Lane, High Wycombe HP11 1DL (Grid Ref: SU881923).

ROBOT WARS

Smashing event in the Kingsbury Square Arena! Experience the carnage for yourself as the robots battle it out in the Kingsbury Arena. You can also meet the creators behind the robots and see the machines close up and personal. This is a must see event - not to be missed!

This is a free day out from 11am until 3pm weather permitting

**Kingsbury, Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire**

Sun 9 May

FARMERS MARKET

Dig your wellies out and come along to the Farmers Market to buy some fabulous local produce. Different special events each month see local press for more details.

Free event, market will be open from 9am until 2pm weather permitting

**Market Square, Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire**

Tue 25 May

Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?
Why women can't put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?

Why is it that doctors call what they do 'practice'?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavour, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

QUIZ - Passing requires 4 correct answers

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What color is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane?

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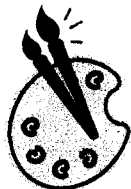
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Wingrave Art Club

With the summer approaching we hope to have the chance for some outdoor sketching. We continue to have a varied programme. The meetings last term included a workshop, themed meetings and a successful life drawing session which was a first for some members.

We meet every 2nd and 4th Thursday in the month, between 7.30- 9.30pm at the Methodist Church schoolroom. Beginners and regular painters are always welcome – it is a relaxed and friendly group.

Jane Muir Windmill Hill Farm, Wingrave
681513 janeferdmuir@btinternet.com.

QUANTON RAILWAY SOCIETY LTD. QUANTON ROAD STATION, QUANTON NEAR AYLESBURY, BUCKS.,

May Day Holiday - 2nd - 3rd May

Come and explore the world of Miniature steam Railways on this fascinating two day event. On Bank Holiday Monday (3rd) Chiltern Rail will be running a special service between the Quanton and Aylesbury. There will be a Collectors Fair featuring over 60 stalls selling everything from models to books and Railwayana.

Shunters Day - 9th May

Beer Festival - 15th/16th May

Paddington Bear – 30th May

Paddington Bear will be greeting railway visitors all day. This is a treat for the whole family – just don't forget the marmalade! **There's no need to book just turn up on the day and join the fun!**

Annual Bus Rally - 31st May

Call 01296 655720 or visit us at www.bucksrailcentre.org for a full list of events and upcoming promotions. See you soon!

1945 WAS A GOOD YEAR

Apart from heralding the end of WWII, the year of 1945 saw the emergence of a charity to help local older people. It was called Bucks Old People's Welfare Committee. Now 65 years later it is more dynamic and go-ahead than ever - no retiring for this organisation!

This charity is now called Age Concern Bucks and provides a range of services to help older people to have a better quality of life. Support runs from Advocacy to Welfare Benefits with stops along the way for Befriending, Information & Advice, Rural Day Care, Handyperson, Neat Feet, Painting & Decorating, Seamless Relocation, One2One computer lessons, Nintendo Wii Ten Pin Bowling, Chair Based Exercises, and the latest Good Neighbour Scheme. All services can be accessed via 01296 431911.

To celebrate it's 65th Anniversary Age Concern Bucks has been organising a year of fundraising events, including a celebration dinner on Friday 18th June, a Great Sunday Lunch at the Hardings Restaurant, Aylesbury College on 17th October, Chilterns Hills Walk and Parachute Jumps.

AGE
Concern

For more information on any of the activities this year, or to find out more about Age Concern Bucks ring 01296 431911 or contact 145 Meadowcroft, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 9HH or www.ageconcernbucks.org.uk

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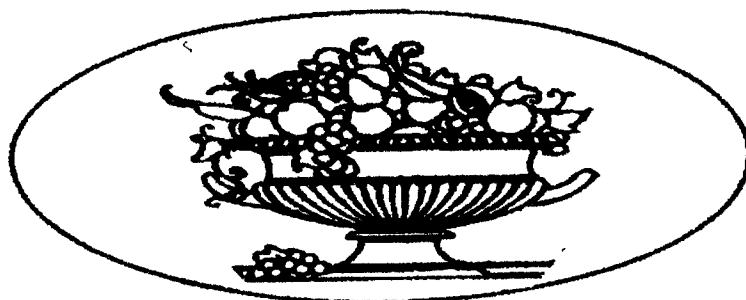
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Astonbury

2010

Saturday July 17th

7pm at Aston Abbotts Recreation Ground

Come and join us for Aston Abbotts' fun family music festival.

Once again we will be featuring the best local bands and performers - some you may not have seen before and some familiar faces. Bring a picnic and something to sit upon. Bring the kids (under 16s free). Bring your friends. Then why not come to party on with us afterwards in The Royal Oak.

Tickets £10 — Under 16s free



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For children aged 2 - 5 years

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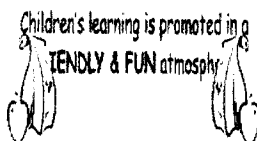
Contact: Sally Ramsell - Pre-School Leader

07983 422752

or

Paul Weston - Committee Chairman

01296 681127



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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.

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MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

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

11th & 25th May

please note new time 1st June 10.30 am

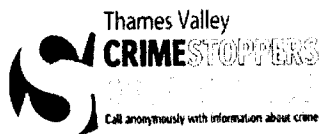
For more information about Neighbourhood Watch or Community Watch contact your local Watch Office on:



0845 8 505 505

the single non-emergency number for Thames Valley Police

or log on to the website at
www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org



CHURCH ROOM Bookings

£6 per hour for residents
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£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
(Please note that from 30th June Colin Higgs will not be taking bookings or continuing as caretaker.)

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

Kate Curry
2 Norduck Cottages, Moat Lane – 681137

James Perkins (co-opted) - 07882 980415

District Councillor
Peter Cooper
Brewhouse Lane, Rowsham – 681250

County Councillor
Netta Glover - 688357

Parochial Church Council

(Revd Ian Olgvie 01296 661479)

Shirley Ford 681865 – Churchwarden

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

Andy Bystra 681690

Anita Parker 681325

Ann Goodman 681763

Caroline Abel Smith 681001 – Secretary

John Abel Smith 681001 - Treasurer

100 Club Winners for April

£50 - Mrs O'Kelly
£10 - Mr F Poulter

SUMMER NEEDN'T END JET AWAY TO THE SUN TODAY



Los Narejos beach

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20th - 27th October 2006

20th December 2006 – 5th January 2007

5th April 2007 – 30th June 2007

16th September – 28th 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

Countryside matters

Having visited the excellent new A.V.D.C. recycling site and rubbish dump, just off the Tring Bypass on College Road, Aston Clinton, staffed by friendly and helpful people. I fail to understand why some morons fly tip rubbish in our ditches. The worst offenders throw old car and lorry tyres as can be seen along the Ledburn road. Why does no one ever hear or see or catch the blighters. I suspect there are some unscrupulous tyre dealers giving our 'friends' £100 cash to get rid of the tyres. Unknown to the folks like you and I the council accept 4 tyres a year per car owner and now it is possible to get £2 each for recycling them. God knows what happens when we all have to change to digital televisions. The state of the ditches, in my view, typifies the pride we have in our country.

On returning from Aylesbury I came across a commotion at the village pond. A hit and run driver had demolished a mallard duck. She was performing perfect back flips in the middle of the road attended by a white Aylesbury male duck. On closer inspection I found the female duck to have a broken leg and wing with other injuries to her head. I decided to despatch her immediately, which I did. At that particular moment I was standing in the middle of the road, trying to drive the persistent randy white Aylesbury drake away back to the pond and of course a lady in a blue estate car came alongside, window down. After her initial outburst. I did manage to persuade her, dead duck in hand, that my credentials as a local 'grim reaper' were impeccable and I was not a murderer of village wildlife. A belated apology was given. So the moral is, if you chase birds across the road in Wingrave without looking you might end up as the only randy white duck on the village pond.

James Henderson

WANTED

*** SINGERS ***

*** MUSICIANS ***

*** BANDS ***

*** HELPERS ***

Astonbury

Would like to be a part of Astonbury 2010? Can you sing, or play an instrument? Would you like to be a helper on the big day—part of the team? Never done anything like this before? It doesn't matter!!!

If you want to be a part of the legendary Astonbury music festival then call Neil on 681201 and have a chat.

GO ON...

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All MOT work undertaken

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Free collection & delivery

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and
have 30 years experience in the trade
and

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Please give me a try,
call Richard Upton, on
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St James Church

Times are as follows:-

1st Sunday of month Evensong 6pm

2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays Holy Communion 10am

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.

2/5 6pm Evensong - Rev Binns

9/5 10.15am Holy Communion - Rev Binns

16/5 10 am - Holy Communion - Father Luke Lea

23/5 10.15am - Holy Communion - Rev Hale

25/4 10am - Holy Communion - Rev Norman Dick

29/5 Wedding

30/5 10am - Benefice at Aston Abbots - Rev Ogilvie

SIDESPERSION	CLEANERS	FLOWERS	MOWERS
2nd Andrew	Colin/Caroline	Mrs Bean	1st Andy
9th Gordon	Ann/Gordon	Ann Goodman	8th Phil
16th Anita	Shirley/Andrew	Shirley	15th Caroline L
23rd Caroline L	April/Anita	Colin	22nd Ray
30th Benefice	Church Wardens	Wedding	29th John Stuart

This Quiz appeared in the 201st edition - May 2001
answers on page 39 (not 25) - *I couldn't get many, Ed*

The Merry Mowers Pop Quiz

A few pages back Andy Bystra told of the training session on the new sit-upon lawnmower. This time the majority of people missed the more obvious obstacles, such as the church, and as nobody fell off the only real incident worth noting was a certain Mr Bee de-tyreing the vehicle on a gravestone. Thank you to Aston Abbots grass-cutting supremo Richard Clark for a very speedy repair.

Now that the new mower is here I believe that the group are to approach the Parish Council with a request for a new grassbox-mounted CD autochanger, complete with four speakers and a graphic equaliser. Then they will be able to accompany their mowing with a special compilation CD of popular grass-cutting tunes, including :

1. I Can't Let Maggie Mow
2. Help Me Rake It Through The Night
3. Heart Of Grass
4. One Mowment In Time
5. Don't Leaf Me This Way
6. Here I Mow Again
7. I Will S...scythe
8. I Shear You Now
9. Should I Stay Or Should I Mow
10. Turfing USA
11. I Should Have Mown Better

12. I Think We're A Lawn Now
13. I Want To Rake Up With You
14. Grass In Pocket
15. Is There Something I Should Mow
16. If You Leaf Me Now
17. Mowny Mowny
18. The Lawn and Winding Road
19. Papa-Ooom-Mow-Mow
20. Rake Me Up Before You Go Go
21. Wind Me Up (Let Me Mow)
22. You'll Never Walk A Lawn

...and, finally, 'Died In Your Arms' by The Cutting Crew.

So Who Recorded Them?

So you think you know your pop music, eh? OK - who had the original hits with the pop songs featured above? Many were UK number ones. I bet few of you can get them all, though. The answers are on page 25 when you give up.

~ Phil Spooner



They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting and Prayer Conference -- includes meals.

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

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

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

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
Book Club	John Hardcastle	688070
Bus Enquiries	Travel line	0870 6082608
Buses	L & S	415468
Chronicle Advertising	Phil Corrigan	688191
Chronicle Distribution	Andy Bystra	681690
Chronicle Editorial	Janice Issitt	681464
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	Tracy Hinds	688479
	Vanessa Worrall	688429
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	TBA	
Refuse Collection	Enquiries	585510
Royal British Legion	Alan Jones	682366
Royal Oak	Teri & Gary Moulton	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

Answers to Merry Mowers Quiz - see page 37

1. The Honeybus
2. Gladys Knight And The Pips
3. Blondie
4. Whitney Houston
5. The Communards
6. Whitesnake
7. Gloria Gaynor
8. Jon & Vangelis
9. The Clash
10. The Beach Boys
11. Jim Diamond (UK No 1 in 1984)
12. Tiffany (UK No 1 in 1988)
13. Boris Gardner
14. The Pretenders
15. Duran Duran
16. Chicago
17. Tommy James and the Shondelles
18. The Beatles
19. The Rivingtons
20. Wham
21. Cliff Richard
22. Gerry And The Pacemakers (later hits by Elvis & The Crowd)

The Chronicle

Advertising rates per annum

FULL PAGE	Back	£100
	Inside	£ 80
HALF PAGE	Inside	£ 40
	Quarter	£ 25
QUARTER PAGE	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

Crime falls across the Vale once again

Crime has fallen by 4%* with significant decreases in Burglary and Theft of Vehicle. The recession didn't adversely impact crime and disorder within Aylesbury Vale as had been anticipated.

Throughout 2009/2010 there were 520 recorded burglaries, that's 53 lower than the previous year and 197 Thefts of a vehicle, 14 lower than the previous year. These key successes have been down to effective partnership work between the police, council and other agencies who work as part of the Community Safety Partnership. With projects such as the Hard Target & Home Service scheme which protect vulnerable residents by upgrading home security and Operation Accurist, our wintertime burglary campaign which gave out over 3500 home safety packs we've been able to keep the rate of burglary to one of the lowest across Thames Valley. To find out about other initiatives we've been delivering to keep crime low visit <http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/community-living/community-safety/>

In neighbourhood areas such as Buckingham, Wendover and Waddesdon we have seen positive reductions in serious acquisitive crime, with overall reductions in Aylesbury Town. If you would like more information about crime statistics in your local area visit www.ionbucks.info

Serious acquisitive crime 2009/2010 against 2008/2009

Burglary: 9.2% reduction (53 offences)**
 Theft from vehicles: 8.5% increase (63 offences)**
 Theft of vehicles: 6.6% reduction (14 offences)**
 Robbery: 14.1% Increase (10 offences)**

* Of 29.03.10 & subject to Home Office approval

** Of 31.03.10 & Subject to Home Office approval

**Council and Police working together
to reduce crime and disorder**



Pest Control

By the BEE'S Knees at MSC Ltd

Environment Agency Certificate Number TWVE/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

What's On In May

Sunday 2nd	Rambling Club meet at Marsworth Church 2pm	
	Evensong	St James Church 6pm
Monday 3rd	May Day Bank Holiday	
	Ascot Gardens Open Day	
Thursday 6th	Elections	Church Room 7am-10pm
Saturday 8th	British Legion Bingo	Church Room 7.30pm
Sunday 9th	Rambling Club Spider Walk Groups Walk to AA tea in Church Room 3-4.30pm	
Tuesday 11th	PCC Meeting	Church Room 10am
	Mobile Library	The Green 10.50am
	Freighter on the Green	12noon-3.30pm
Wednesday 12th	Annual Parish Meeting	Church Room 8pm
Thursday 13th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon
	Ladies Club	Church Room 12.30pm
Thursday 20th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon
	Church Warden Swearing in Bedgrove Church 7.30	
Tuesday 25th	Mobile Library	The Green 10.50am
Wednesday 26th	Parish Council Meeting	Church Room 8pm
Thursday 27th	Coffee Shop	Church Room 10-12noon
	Ladies Club	Church Room 2.15pm
	Whist Drive	Church Room 7.30pm
Monday 31st	Bank Holiday	
Tuesday 1st June	Mobile Library	The Green 10.30am (note new time!)

Address

Please note that all submissions for the Chronicle should be sent to
Janice Issitt
3 The Green
01296 681464

Email submissions to:
editor@aachronicle.co.uk

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

Classified

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE in The Chronicle

Phone us on 01296 688191
 or email

editor@aachronicle.co.uk

630 Club - meets every Saturday in the 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.

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ on page 27

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last? **116 years**
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats? **Ecuador**
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut? **Sheep and Horses**
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? **November**
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of? **Squirrel fur**
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? **Dogs**
- 7) What was King George VI's first name? **Albert**
- 8) What color is a purple finch? **Crimson**
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from? **New Zealand**
- 10) What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane? **Orange** (of course)

FOR SALE Tefal Vita Cuisine Food Steamer
 £15 - Paul 01296 682322

Stewkley Open Gardens – 2010

An Open Gardens Weekend will be held in Buckinghamshire's "Best Kept Village 2009", Stewkley, on Saturday and Sunday 19th and 20th June 2010 from 2-6pm.

A dozen delightful Gardens will be showcased through the length of the village, with something for everyone, including delicious Refreshments, an Exhibition and Sale of Paintings by local artists, Plants for sale, and visits to our unique Norman Church throughout the weekend.

Inclusive admission cost will be £5 (free for young people 12 and under) for access to all gardens.

For further information, contact Denise Draper on 01525-240524.

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

British Summer Time starts at the Unicorn!

From Saturday 1st May, why not bring the family or friends to enjoy a BBQ in our delightful garden? (BBQ from 5-9pm).

We would be delighted to welcome you very soon.



THE
UNICORN
at Cublington

Aylesbury Vale Pub of the Year 2009!

Forthcoming events in

May

3rd Bank Holiday from Midday

Who can grow the tallest sunflower this summer?

Bring the kids and plant your seed in the Unicorn Garden.

Prize for the tallest at the Horticultural show in September

6th Election Special

watch how the election unfolds over a pint or two into the early hours of Friday morning

13th FREE Wine Tasting Evening

from 7.30pm some fabulous wines from renowned vineyards. Our 2010 wine list will be chosen from what you choose!

30th Live Jazz *Live Jazz and a great dinner - book now for this popular monthly event*

Enjoy these Unicorn Regulars:

Coffee mornings now Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday - home made cakes, coffee and papers from 10.30am

PLUS:

Monday Night is Quiz night

The extremely popular Unicorn Quiz.

8pm - 10pm - Why not bring a team?

Special Quizzers Menu £10 for 2-course meal

PLUS:

Best of British Sunday Lunches

at The Unicorn 12pm - 3pm

PLUS:

Bar Snacks available throughout the day!

Freshly prepared Daily Specials. See the blackboard behind the bar for full details.

PLUS:

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

Please see web site for full details www.theunicornpub.co.uk

As a small tribute to the never ending support the Chronicle receives from Dave Lewis in his sponsorship of the 'Back Page', and his nemesis Phil Cooper, printed below are a few of the ones I particularly liked - Ed

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS



T.V. VIDEO AND
SATELLITE
SERVICING AND
GENERAL REPAIR



RENTALS, NEW
AND USED SALES

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DAVE AND ALISON GO TO MILTON KEYNES SNOWDOME TO PRACTICE FOR THEIR FIRST SKIING HOLIDAY



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February 2005

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS



T.V. VIDEO AND
SATELLITE
SERVICING AND
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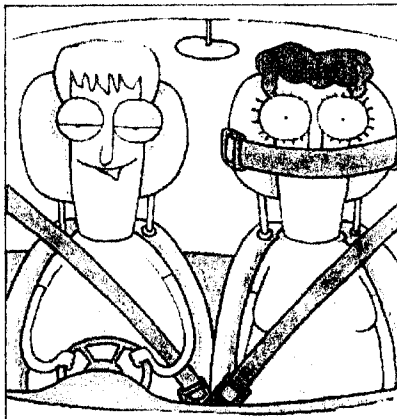
RENTALS, NEW
AND USED SALES

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DAVE IS FORCED TO TURN OFF HIS IN-CAR NAVIGATION SYSTEM



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Save YOUR Chronicle--see page 2

October 2005

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS Tel: 01296 682126

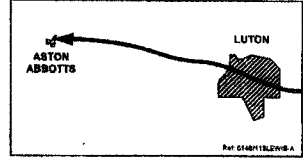
OUTRAGE OVER NEW FLIGHTPATH PROPOSAL

Luton residents reacted angrily this week to news of a proposed new direct descent flightpath in to Aston Abbots. This new flight approach could see David Lewis passing directly over Luton town at low altitude in a desperate attempt to locate Church Farm.

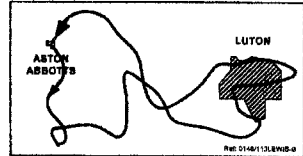
Protestors were quick to point out that the new flightpath might see landings at Church Farm increase from the current 0.000002 nippa (million passengers per annum). They are also upset that nighttime flights home may disturb their sleep. "He can be very late coming home on a Friday night," one protestor told us, "and he rings!"

A spokesman for Luton backed the protests, saying, "This town is just so peaceful at night - all you can hear are the town sounds of glass breaking and car alarms going off", and added, "We don't want that pest over us!"

Luton residents have vowed to fight the application. A protest group - the Bedfordshire Against Lewis' Landings Society - has been formed. Members deny they are being bribed, telling us, "Just keep that pest away from us!"



Lewis' proposed new approach flightpath to Aston Abbots



The alternative Lewis approach flightpath to be used on Friday nights after closing time

Meanwhile support for the new flight path has been growing in Aston Abbots. Lewis' friend John Whyte a few days ago launched a support group with great enthusiasm and has, typically, been talking nothing but excitable Bucks Official Lewis' Landings Organisation and Complete Kamikaze Support ever since

Whyte has also been quick to deny that the application does not reveal the true low height nature of the flights. Whilst admitting that the planned height of 250 feet is actually above sea level he was unable to confirm that Aston Abbots' greater height of 450 feet a.s.l. could see the last three miles of the approach being 200 feet below ground, commenting tartly, "Such an approach is quite normal for a Lewis landing".

-Aviation Correspondent



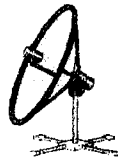
Lewis "...pest..."

EYELASH PERMING? - JUST ASK

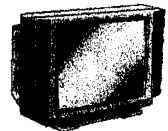
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FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS

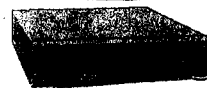


T.V. VIDEO AND
SATELLITE
SERVICING AND
GENERAL REPAIR



NEW AND USED SALES
LCD, PLASMA, DVD

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HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

Villagers are being asked to keep a careful look out for the evil creature pictured on the right.

On the night of Friday December the 22nd 2006 this man fled the Doghouse in Broughton Crossing without paying for his Christmas dinner!

His whereabouts are currently unknown, but he was last spotted lurking on the fringes of Aston Abbots trying to interfere with the judiciary.

Members of the public are warned not to approach this man, as he could be outrageous.

POLICE IDENTIKIT PICTURE



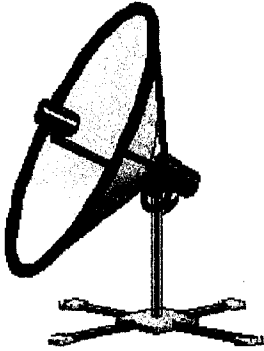
Flackwell Electronics - Purveyors of plasma screens to the gentry

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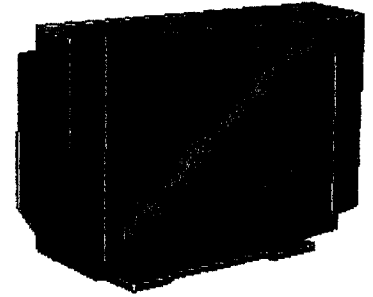
January 2007

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS

OF CHURCH FARM, ASTON ABBOTTS



- PLASMA
- LCD
- DVD
- HDTV



RENTALS, NEW
AND USED SALES

01296 682126

Massive Eruption Grounds Dave Lewis

A huge cloud of invisible ash and noxious gasses blew over Aston Abbots from the direction of Cublington in mid April. The airspace around Church Farm was immediately closed to all traffic and Flackwell Electronic's chief pilot Dave Lewis commented that this was the biggest eruption he had known since his wife saw last month's Chronicle back page.

The unexpected airspace closure - the worst in Aston Abbots history - left two well-known Aston Abbots residents stranded in the Royal Oak for several days. One complained, "Das englische Bier ist zu teuer und schmeckt wie Esel Urin - ich habe eine andere Bitte," whilst the other said, "My wife hasn't seen me for ages".

Concerns over a slightly longer than usual drinking session by these two led to an immediate panic amongst members of the 630 Club over the longevity of Aston Abbots beer stocks. Several prominent members were in immediate need of support and an emergency medical team was despatched to provide bottle-to-mouth resuscitation.

~ Val Kano-Ashe

On May 8th - Vote

D L P

Dave Lewis Party

Vote for the party that promotes friendship and goodwill to all. (Except for murderers, rapists, child abusers, and expenses-swindling MPs. For these people we have just one policy : slow, painful, non-anaesthetised castr-

Editor's note: we wish to apologise for a publishing error in the early edition of the May Chronicle. The computer spell-checker replaced the word "Eruption" in the headline of this article with another word beginning with "Er" and ending in "tion". Whilst Mr Lewis was extremely happy with the erroneous headline a source who has asked to remain anonymous told us, "He hasn't had one of those for years!"

FLACKWELL ELECTRONICS — PURVEYORS OF PLASMA SCREENS TO THE GENTRY