

The Chronicle



Editorial

Our second issue already. Thank you to all who have contributed - and helped us with ideas for the future. We are keeping broadly to the existing arrangement of the Chronicle, but do let us have any views or suggestions for other items we might include. We have not consciously dropped Portraits of Buckinghamshire, by the way - it's just that the relevant books are not in our library (and even if they were, the library is still in cardboard boxes...). We hope to remedy this situation!

We have included quite a lot of information from the auctioneers of the contents of the Abbey. We only wish that more were known about the future of the Abbey itself and the village houses belonging to the estate.

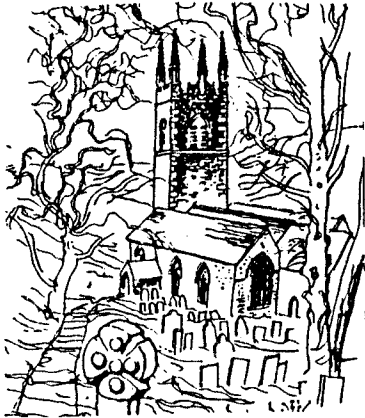
Finally, apologies to anyone who was misled by the printer's gremlin and expected the Harvest Supper tickets to be £2.50 instead of £3.50.

Caroline Lane

Gordon Smith

Deadline date for the November issue will be Friday 27th October. Please bring or send articles, letters and information for the next issue to us at 2 Church Row, or telephone Aylesbury 681373.

Published by Caroline Lane and Gordon Smith
Printed by the SQUIRREL PRESS at Waddesdon School, Waddesdon
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Abbotts



Church news

So, we have a new Rector for the Rev. Robert Willmott was installed on 20th September. The Bishop of Buckingham, in his inimitable way, reminded us right at the beginning of the service that "if we had come to see the new Rector 'done' then we were mistaken" for it was for us to meet and welcome our pastor in friendship and partnership that the service was all about. He also reminded us that the Rector has responsibilities for all the people in all the three parishes whether they are churchgoers or not. Indeed he pointed out that if there were not regular services in the church and if it ceased to be a place of worship within the village a lot of people who rarely use it would be very upset. "This is unfair", as he put it, but no Christian can complain at being unfairly treated if she or he thinks of how Christ was treated. The service was not without its humour though especially when the Bishop confessed to having forgotten his mitre! In the vestry at the end he expressed himself well pleased with the way it had gone. I believe the service demonstrated some of the things we hope for from the new Rector's Ministry, a widening of the church circle, a touch of humour now and then, and pleasure at the way things are going. No doubt he will be seen around the village before long. Let us all give him a splendid welcome.

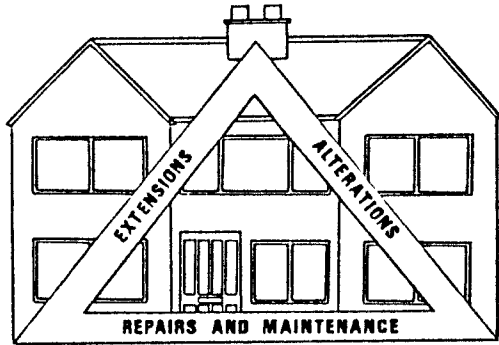
PETER DINES

Church services in October

Sidesman

October 1st:	HARVEST FESTIVAL	11.15 am	Alison Hewitt
	FAMILY SERVICE		
	Special readings		
October 8th:	HOLY COMMUNION	11.15 am	John Ford
	Pentecost 21 Acts 26:1-8	739	Luke 18, 1-8
October 15th:	HOLY COMMUNION	11.15 am	Colin Higgs
	Pentecost 22 1 John 2:22 - end	743	Luke 16, 1-9
October 22nd:	HOLY COMMUNION	11.15 am	Tony Hewitt
	Last Sunday		
	after Pentecost	Philippians 3, 7 - end	746 John 17, 1-10
October 29th:	HOLY COMMUNION	11.15 am	Alison Ford
	Ninth Sunday		
	before Christmas	Revelations 4 401	John 3, 1-8

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UPDATE



WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Sunday 8th: Rambling Club members
host lunch to Coach Ramblers
Church Room 12.45 pm

Sunday 22nd: Rambling Club members
meet Wing Church 2pm

Tuesday 3rd: Rambling Club members
Autumn/Winter programme
meeting (Doug's) 8 pm

Thursdays 5th & 19th: Whist Drive
Church Room 7.30 pm

Thursday 12th: Bingo
Church Room 7.30 pm

12th Sept

Mrs Scutchings, Mr D
Waite, Mr J Gell. The
snowball was unmelted.

● Aston Abbotts
Rambling Club mem-
bers met at Woburn for
a Sunday afternoon
walk led by Vivian Tay-
lor. Starting at the car
park, the route was
along Bedford Street
and into the park with
its great oaks and herds
of deer and cattle. The
walkers returned via the
spinney and the abbey
for tea at the parish
Church.

● At Aston Abbotts
Colin Higgs was MC
for a Thursday evening
whist drive held in the
Churchroom. Prizewinners were Mr
Shackshaft, Mrs Banks,
Mrs Kempster, Mrs
Scutchings, Mr Gell,
(special) Mr D Waite
and Mrs H Wesley.
(raffle) Mr Shackshaft,

BUSES

Saturday 28th: Additional buses operated by Routemaster
Service R.M.5 Saturdays only

Aylesbury	*9.00	12.00	3.00	L. Buzzard	11.05	2.05	3.50
Aston Abbotts	9.22	12.22	3.22	Wing	11.18	2.18	4.02
Cublington	9.26	12.26	3.26	Cublington	11.26	2.26	4.09
Wing (Stewkley Rd)	9.33	12.33	3.33	Aston Abbotts	11.30	2.30	4.13
L. Buzzard	9.45	12.45	3.45	Aylesbury	11.49	2.49	4.35

*Connects at Leighton Buzzard for Milton Keynes

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ASTON ABBOTTS

ARSON ABBOTTS 1989



By your raging reporter
Connie Flagration

I can reveal that the following
articles have been found close
to the orchard in Moat Lane:
One can petrol (used)
One box matches (part used).
A certain Aston resident,
rather hot under the collar,
pointed out Citroën 2CV tyre
marks close by. Aston Abbotts
Police Headquarters would
welcome any further information.

ARSON ABBOTTS 1989





INFO

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

At Friday evening's parish council meeting chaired by Cllr Colin Higgs the clerk was asked to report damaged inspection covers in Cublington Road and Wingrave Road/The Acorns to British Telecom.

A letter had been received from a group of skateboarders seeking permission to use an area in the Recreation Ground. This was given, but left to the R.G. Committee to see if further equipment could be obtained for use with skateboards.

It was noted some POT HOLES had received some poor infill, but this was felt inadequate, but it was noted British Gas were due shortly to make good road and foot-path services following installation of mains gas.

The clerk was asked to write to AVDC to confirm the correct day for REFUSE collections as they appeared to be no set day over the past few weeks, and this caused inconvenience.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Colin Higgs (Chairman)
6 Wingrave Rd 681343
John Ford 2 Ross Rd 681865
Richard Speakman
79 The Green 681042
Bryan Round 11 Nup End Lane,
Wingrave 681621
Roy Malin 3 Ross Rd 681201

THANK YOU

The following letter has been received by the Festival Committee.

Dear John

Methodist Chapel/Festival Committee

On behalf of all the members of the Chapel I acknowledge with very many thanks to you and your committee, sponsors and supporters, the splendid cheque for £248 for the Chapel's share of the Festival proceeds.

This was a tremendous effort for which we are all very grateful, the cheque is a very welcome boost to our funding.

With renewed thanks
Yours sincerely

Geoff Mean
Hon. Treasurer

THE SUNDAY CLUB

The Sunday Club is held at the Methodist Chapel at 10 am on Sunday mornings. We are also involved in a Family service in the Church once a month. The Club is for children aged 3 upwards, all are welcome.

CUBLINGTON GROWERS

DAIRY FARM

CUBLINGTON

LARGE SELECTION OF:

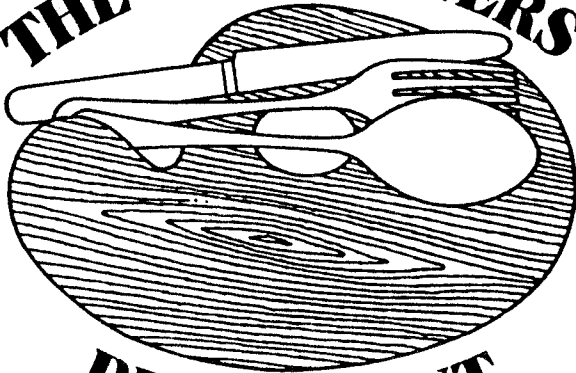
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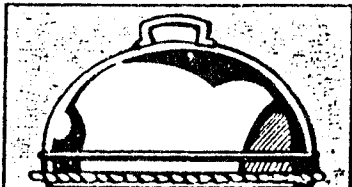
WEATHER THIS WINTER.

TIDY WORK
REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN

FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

JUST RING ME (ADRIAN)

CHEDDINGTON (0296) 668610



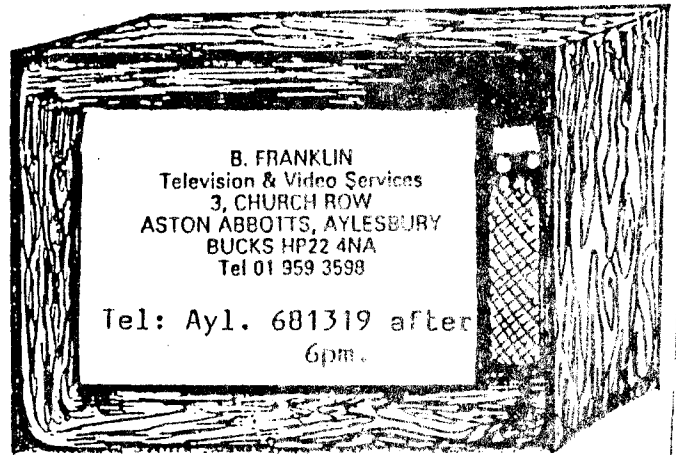
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HELP LINE

Les Smith, 'Gatesgarth', Limes Hill (Tel. 681168)
Peter Dines, 87 The Green. (Tel: 681459)
Colin Higgs, 6, Wingrave Road. (Tel: 681243)
John Whyte, 14 Bricstock. (Tel: 681685)

David Watts, 'White Wheels' (681376)
Rosemary Franklin, 3 Church Row. (681319).

People

Our monthly column about village people, edited by BRIDGET BRANDON

BIRTHDAYS

DENISE ROBINSON.....2nd Oct
JULIETTE GUTIERREZ.....3rd Oct
EDWARD PICKING.....11th Oct
JUAN GUTIERREZ.....14th Oct
RITA ROBINSON.....26th Oct
HALEY WILKINSON.....31st Oct

TERRY DOEL

Many villagers will have already heard the shocking news of Terry Doel's tragic death on his bicycle on Friday 22nd September. He lived in Church Row and moved away from Aston Abbotts about three years ago. He was a member of the darts team, then at the Royal Oak, and a keen runner. Our deepest sympathy to his wife Margaret and their three sons.

CONGRATULATIONS

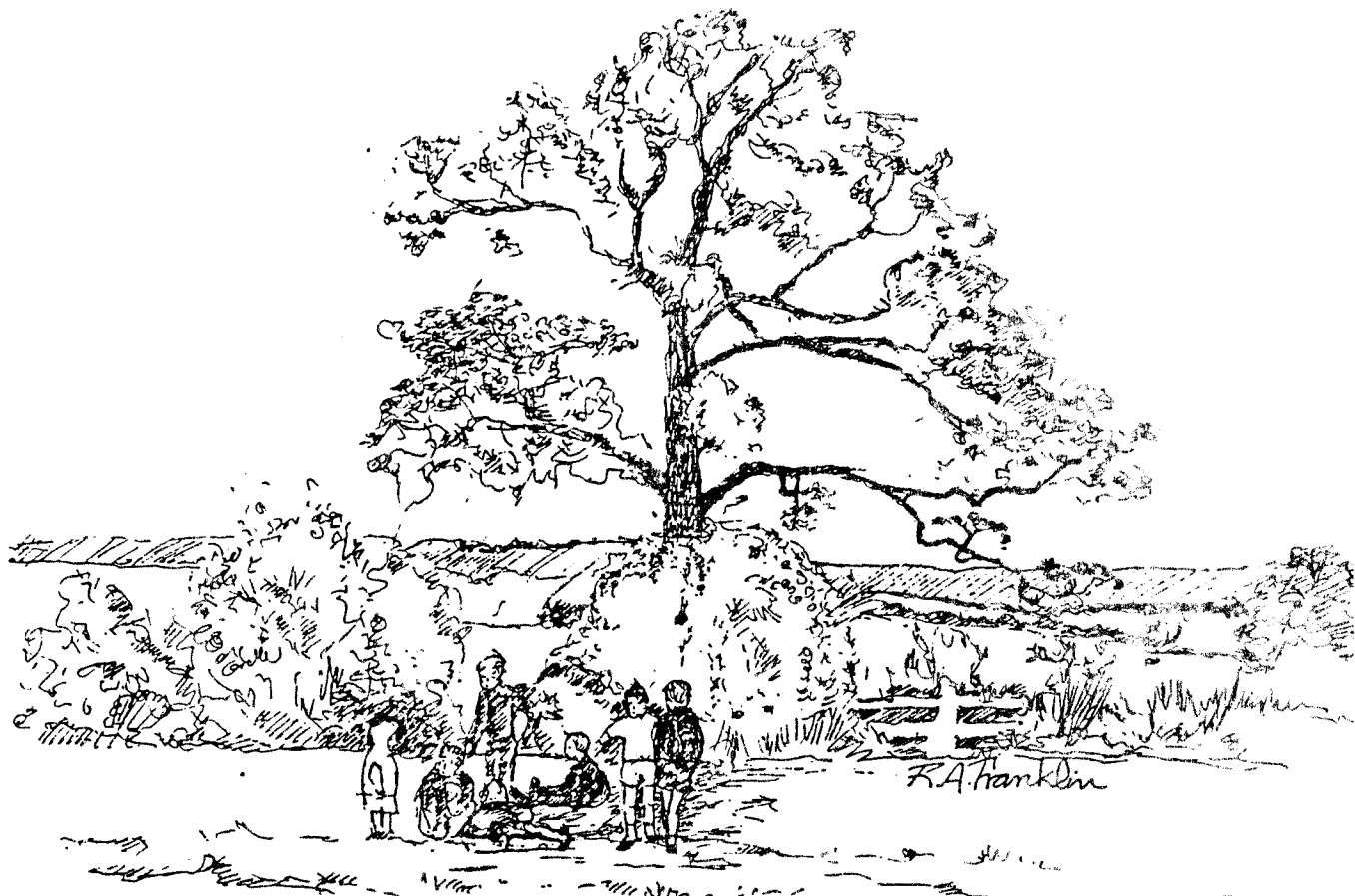
to Helen Watts, who recently announced her engagement to Neil. They are hoping to be married in February of next year. We wish them good luck.

GET WELL SOON

Arthur Roff, who at the time of writing was still in hospital.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

To Siesi, who is due to fly back to Tonga on 17th October.



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FURTHER DETAILS FROM DORIS SCUTCHINGS ON
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COST: £2.50 per hour + metered electricity.
£1.50 per hour + metered electricity
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The Chronicle:

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	: Inside	£25 per annum.
HALF PAGE	: Back	£25 per annum.
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A MONTHLY LOOK AT FACTS YOU NEVER WANTED TO KNOW...



Alopecia, or baldness in patches is, in the majority of cases, due to conditions of the nervous system. An iron tonic invariably helps and occasionally electrical treatment is beneficial. A lotion consisting of 2 drachms of vinegar of cantharides to 2 oz of rectified spirit, dabbed over the scalp daily with a pad of cotton-wool will, in many instances, effect a cure. A course of hypophosphites tonic will also help in building up the nervous system.

"WISE OLD GOAT"

(Don't blame us. We haven't tried this one - Eds)

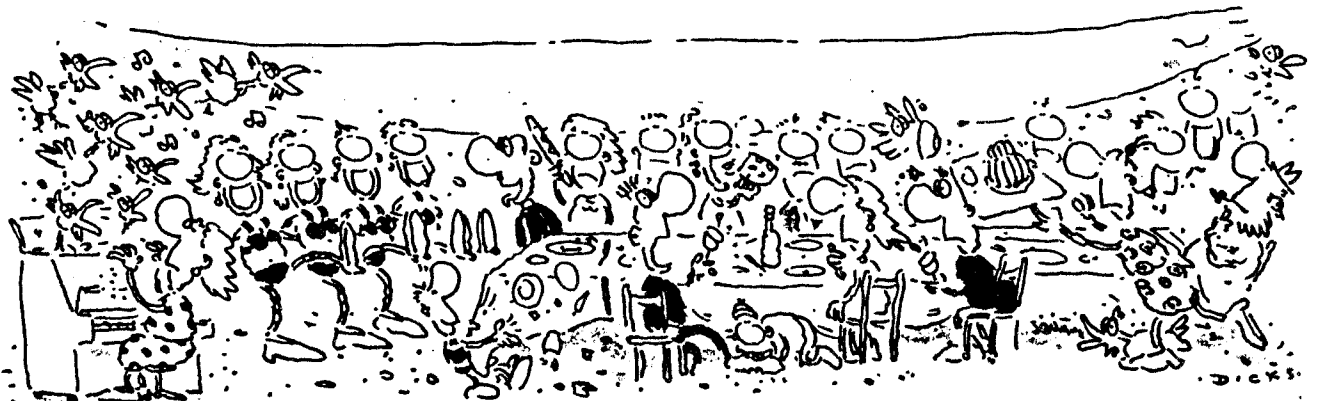
ANNOUNCING...

THE 13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW 8th & 9th DECEMBER

Yes, once again the Aston Players will be there to entertain you. Preparations are well under way for this year's epic. If you would like to take part and air your talents before a jovial audience of mickey takers, why not contact Neil on 681201, Chris on 681425, Tony on 681390, or John on 681685. We are desperately looking for jugglers, escapologists, musicians and singers, but if you just like making a fool of yourself, you will do nicely.

For those who prefer to sit back and savour the proceedings, or just take the mickey out of the Players, tickets will be available later.

Watch this space...



The Abbey

At last the purchasers - if not the fate - of the Abbey and its estate are known. As reported in the local press, Mr Steve Rotherham, an Aylesbury property agent, has bought the Abbey itself. He told The Chronicle that he has bought the Abbey and the cottages as an individual, not on behalf of the company Rotherham & Co. He had not yet decided what he would do with the houses.

Meanwhile, news of the coming auction of the contents of the Abbey made the national press. We gleaned the following details from the auctioneers Phillips. They also sent us two photographs which unfortunately are not suitable for photocopying, but if anyone would like to see them please ask. One is an external view of the house across the lake, and the other is of the Morning Room.

THE ABBEY

The house stands on the site of the ancient country residence of the Abbots of St Albans and up to the late 19th century was known as Aston House. It is a grade two listed Georgian building, though some of the walls are of exceptional thickness and may be part of the original house that was sold by Henry VIII to Lord Russell after the dissolution of the monasteries in 1519. Fifteen years later it was conveyed to the Dormer family, who held the estate until the early 19th century, when they sold all their Bucks. land. It then appears to have been purchased by the Duke of Buckingham. When the 2nd Duke went bankrupt in 1848, the estate was bought by Samuel Lloyd, later Lord Overstone, a self-made banker. He and his daughter, Lady Wantage, retained the property until the 1920s when it was purchased by the Mortons.

For almost four hundred years however, between 1538 and 1924 it was never lived in by the owners and was usually let. This is understandable as they were all large landowners and had great estates of their own. Lord Overstone had over 30,000 acres in seven counties including Overstone Park in Northampton and Aston House would not have been considered suitable as a main residence.

The first identifiable tenants were the Fremantles in the late 18th century. One of their descendants John Fremantle is the current Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire. In the 19th century there were a bewildering number of occupiers including Sir James Clark Ross, the discoverer of the Magnetic Pole, who lived in the house from 1842 until his death in 1862. He was followed by a Frederick Straw, who renamed the house the Abbey. It was probably during his tenure that the house was extended and enlarged. Subsequent tenants included Edward Hart, Colonel Henry Sholto Douglas, Frank Spencer and Major T. Sebag-Montefiore.

In 1924 the estate was purchased by the Mortons and it has remained in the family until the present day. During the Second World War, it was occupied by President Benes of Czechoslovakia.



Major Harold Trestail Morton was born in Hertfordshire and educated at Bradfield. In the First World War he served with the East Riding Yeomanry. In 1931 he became a J.P. and was appointed High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire in 1943. He was a member of the London Stock Exchange and a director of several companies. A keen shot and huntsman, he was Master of the Whaddon Chase from 1940 to 1947. He died in 1972.

Beatrice Morton was the daughter of Captain James Edward Shaw and Adela Shaw C.B.E. J.P. of Burn Hall, Huby, York. Her grandfather on her maternal side was Sir Henry Durrant, Bt. of Welburn Manor, Kirkby Lonsdale.

She married Harold Morton in 1916 and they lived in Flaunden, Herts, before buying the Abbey in 1924. She also enjoyed

hunting and shooting and was Master of the Old Berkeley West from 1917 to 1952. For many years Major and Mrs Morton owned the Gretna estate in Banff and used to go there in May for the fishing and from August to October for the grouse shooting. She died in 1988 aged 95.

The contents of The Abbey, Aston Abbots - 7, 8, and 9 November

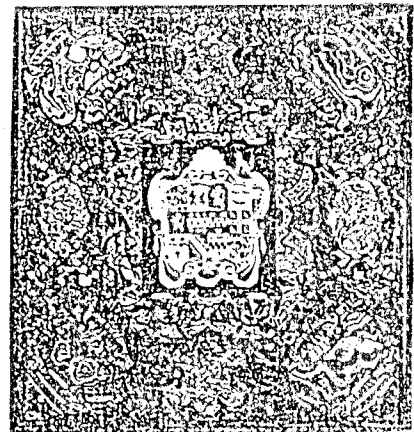
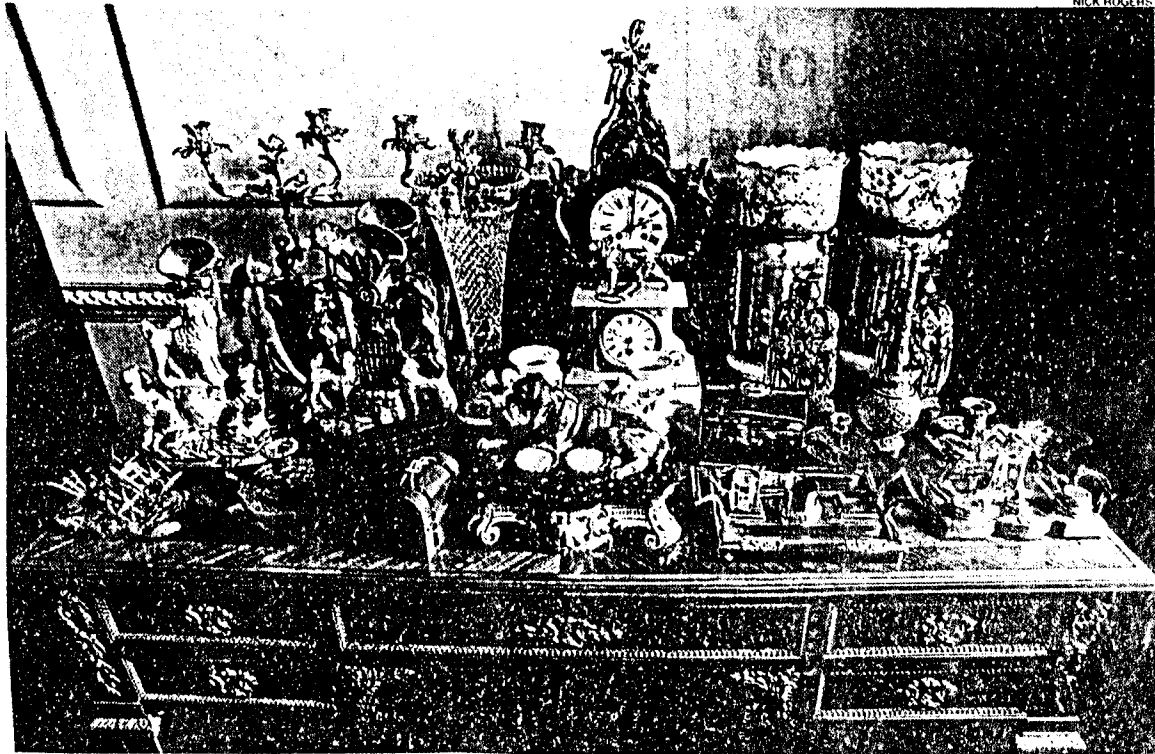
This major three-day sale is the most important house sale Phillips has held for many years. The 1,350 lot sale includes the 18th century furniture - much of which comes from the Gretna Estate in Scotland sold by the Duke of Richmond to the late owners of the Abbey - sporting paintings, prints, European and Oriental ceramics, silver, works of art, textiles and household effects.

The furniture includes an important 17th century Italian Pietra Dura and Scagliola Marble top on a Regency carved giltwood & brass table; the works of art, an important pair of early 19th century Russian gilt bronze mounted malachite candleabra, similar to a pair in the Hermitage Museum, Leningrad; the clocks, an unusual water-powered longcase regulator designed to be powered by rainwater gathered in a tank on the roof and the curiosities include the head of the last stag shot in Scotland by Mrs Morton, aged 84 years, a hunting, fishing, and shooting enthusiast to the end.

(Details of the Important Table follow, for those of us with £40-60,000 burning a hole in our pockets. Further details of the sale, to be held here in Aston, can be had from Alexandra Eccles-Williams, Press Office, Phillips, Blenstock House, 7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AS, telephone 01-629 6602)

For sale: 1,350 creature comforts of a listed home

NICK ROGERS



89

39 An Important 17th Century Italian Pietra Dura and Scagliola Marble Top on a Regency carved Giltwood and Brass Mounted Rosewood Centre Table, the top inlaid with geometric panels and stylised vases of flowers to the corners in a variety of coloured hardstones and marbles including: onyx, jasper, lapis, sienna and verde antio on a grey ground, the centre later inset with a scagliola armorial device; the base applied with lozenge, mask and lotus ornament to the frieze, raised on lion monopodiae with gilt gesso cabochon ornament terminating in paw feet and united by 'C' scroll cross stretchers centred by a circular platform, top 1.13m. x 1.07m. (3ft. 8 1/2 in. x 3ft. 6 in.), height 82cm (2ft 8 in.)

The base is similar to the lion monopodiae on a sideboard in the Banqueting Room of the Brighton Pavilion and resembles illustrations in *To Hope's Household Furniture* 1807, Plate 32, and in George Smith's *A Collection of Designs for Household Furniture and Interior Decoration* 1808, Plates 83 and 87.

The arms are English, and relate primarily to the Whitehead and Thistlewaite families; other quarterings include those of Thame, Hamelyn, Cosamajor, Norton, Pound and White of Southwick Park.

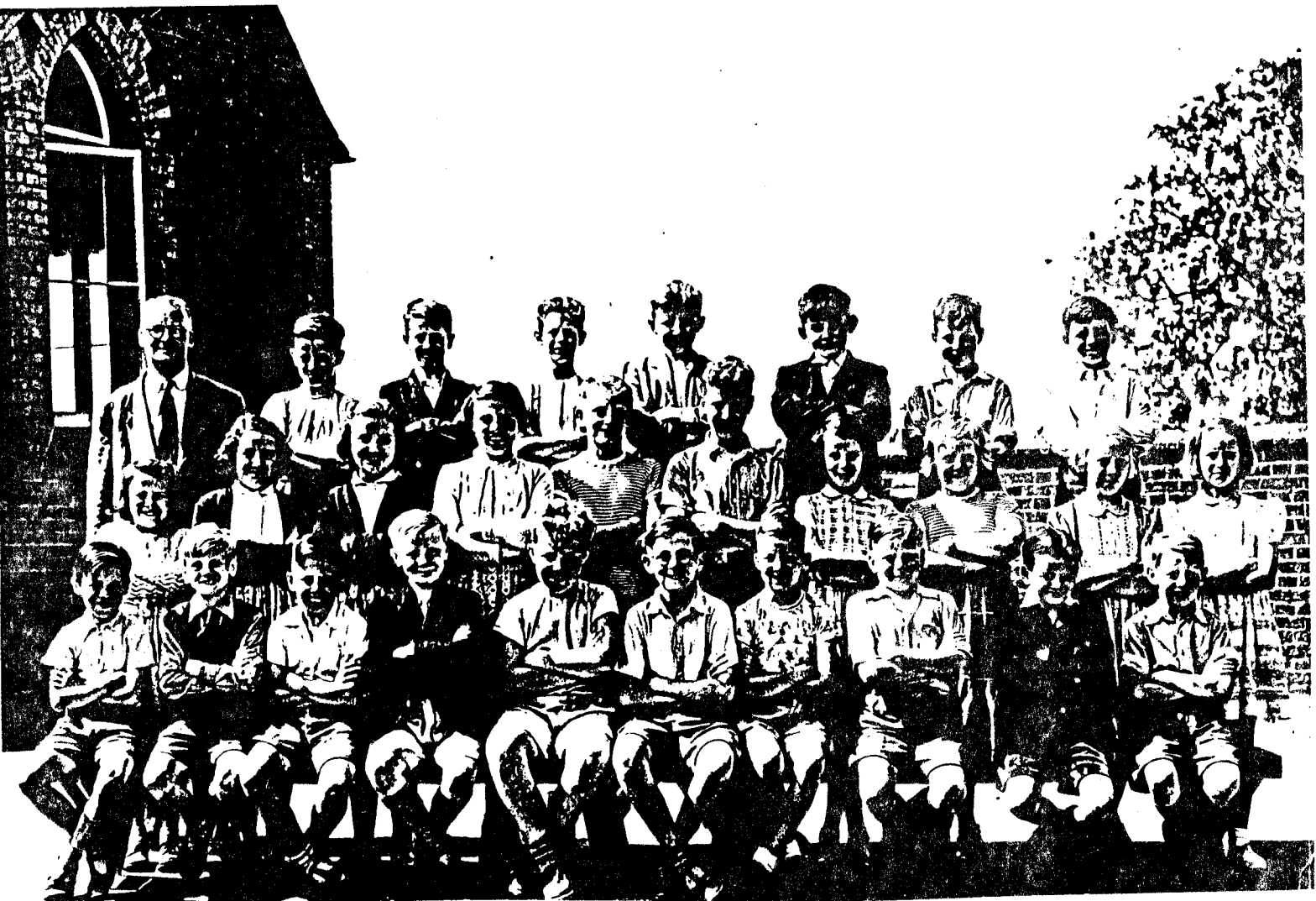
Francis Thistlewaite (born 1719) of Norman Court assumed the name and arms of Whitehead on recovering Southwick Park which had been bequeathed by his uncle, Mr Norton, to the Government. He died without issue and was succeeded by his brother, the Reverend Thomas Thistlewaite who died in 1767. This would suggest that the arms were inset in the table when Francis Thistlewaite held Southwick Park and after he had taken the name of Whitehead which would indicate a date, circa 1750-1760

£40,000-60,000



INSIDE THE BACK PAGE

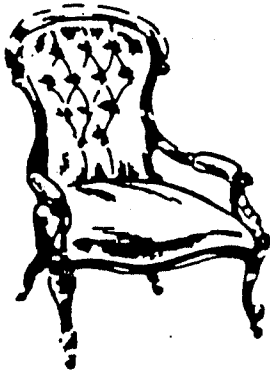
It's Aston Abbotts school, we think it's 1955...were you there?
Why was the indoor shot taken? Do let us know more.



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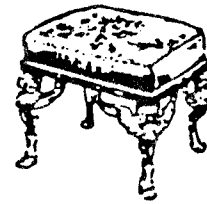
*Thatched Cottage
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