

The Chronicle

Parish Magazine for Aston Abbotts



APRIL
1991

No.

89



Editorial

Parish council elections on 2nd May - at least two new faces are needed, as Colin Higgs is standing down and Richard Speakman has left the village. The councillors normally serve for four years. Posters will be going up soon with details of how to stand.

We were dismayed to hear that the planned Wing bypass is now going to be dual carriageway and the preferred route is the northern one, cutting between Burcott and Wing and slicing through a pleasant bit of country and several footpaths. Bucks County Council Highways Committee were due to consider the route on 21st March, so we don't have anything to add to what has been in the local press, but it seems likely that there will be a further period of consultation.

Finally, goodbye and good luck to Grayburn, Joanna, Alexander and Jessica Owen from the Royal Oak, who are leaving the village this week.

Caroline Lane

Gordon Smith

Please let us have material for the May issue by Friday 26th April: to 2 Church Row, Aston Abbots, telephone 681373.

Published by Caroline Lane and Gordon Smith
Printed by the SQUIRREL PRESS at Waddesdon School and distributed free to all households in the parish of Aston Abbots

Thank you to Rosemary Franklin for the cover illustration



Regulars

Tuesdays: Wingrave Toddlers
Community Centre, 2-4pm

Tuesdays: The Trawler mobile fish
shop, The Green, 1.40-2pm

Wednesdays: Bin Day

Alternate Wednesdays: mobile library
The Green 2-2.30pm

Longmoor 2.35-50pm

April dates: 10th and 24th

Wednesdays: free bus to Tesco 10.31am

Wednesdays: fish & chip van
outside Bull & Butcher, about 8pm

Wednesday 3rd: Leighton/Linslade
Transport meeting. Any
complaints about bus services
to Colin

Thursday 4th: Whist Drive
Church Room, 7.30pm

Monday 8th: Toddlers
Church Room, 2.30-4pm

Thursday 11th: Bingo
Church Room, 7.30pm

Friday 12th: Parish Council
Church Room, 8pm

Sunday 14th: Rambling Club
meet Tring Station 11am

Thursday 18th: Ladies Club
Mr D. Crawley: 'An Insight
into the work of a Hospital
Chaplain'
Church Room, 2.45pm

Thursday 18th: Whist Drive
Church Room, 7.30pm

Monday 22nd: Toddlers
Church Room, 2.30-4pm

Thursday 25th: Bingo
Church Room, 7.30pm

Saturday 27th: Barn Dance
In aid of Church Clock
Tickets £3 from Doris or
Colin
Church Room, 8-11.30pm

Sunday 28th: Rambling Club
meet Boltolph Claydon 2pm

Thursday 2nd May: Parish Council
elections, Church Room

Book these dates

Sunday 23rd June: Kings Lynn
Flower Festival and Heacham

Lavender Fields. Book with Colin; more details in May Chronicle

1991 Village Festival

Help and ideas needed -
especially anyone willing to
join the committee. No
special skills needed - just
enthusiasm! Contact Shirley
Ford (681865) or come to next
meeting on 12th April, 8pm,
Methodist Chapel Schoolroom.

Festival Weekend 20/21 July

STOP PRESS...

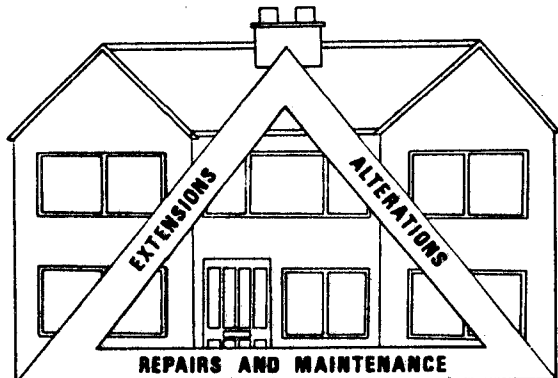
Church Clock jumble sale date
changed to Saturday 23rd March,
Church Room, 10-12am. You may
just have time to get there...

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

If you wish to stand for election
on 2nd May, nomination papers
must be in by 5th April. At the
time of writing, posters giving
details had still not come from
AVDC, but look out for them in
the village soon. There will be
vacancies on the council, so
don't be shy.

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682151

People

Our monthly column about village people, edited by BRIDGET BRANDON

BIRTHDAYS

Caroline Lane 5th April
Karen Brandon 7th April
Laura Whyte (2) 11th April
Marc Brandon 25th April
Diana Picking 28th April



Having your birthday printed in the Chronicle can only mean one thing. More presents and free pints in the pub, so don't be shy, let us know about when it is, and we'll see to the rest.

CABARET

Well it was pretty hilarious as might have been expected, particularly the Spotted Dick Parade. We hope to carry a full & considered report in next month's Chronicle.

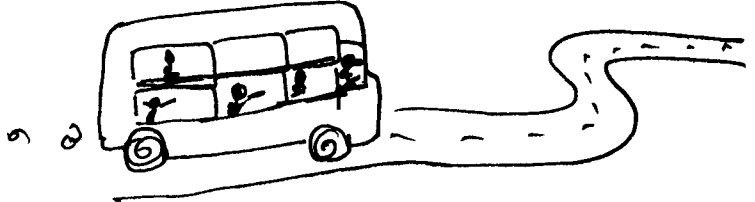
Caroline

LOW COST HOUSING

AVDC is building 36 two-bed houses at Moorhills Rd, Wing. Twelve have been reserved for local people including people from Aston Abbotts.

Further details from:

The House Sales Officer
AVDC, 84 Walton St, Aylesbury
Telephone 0296 395900
extension 5595



BUSES

I am glad to advise you that the recent passenger surveys on usage recorded service 65 as being well used. So we keep our bus service. Some villages will not, so keep using the bus.

Don't forget the ROUTEMASTER bus on Saturdays:

8.35 and 9.16 to Leighton
3 o'clock to Aylesbury

could do with more use

Colin

HELPLINE (see p.10)

This is a list of village people ready to help you in an emergency - transport, advice, general support. Would those people whose names appear on the list, please confirm to Margaret Chesher, clerk to the Parish Council, if they are willing to continue to serve. (Margaret's telephone number is 681201)

New names welcome.

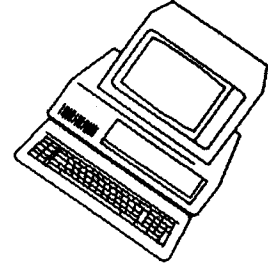
Existing helpline people:

Les Smith, Peter Dines, John Whyte, Colin Higgs, David Watts, Rosemary Franklin.

FIRELIGHTING WOOD (kindling) is available throughout the year at £2 a bag, so why not stock up. Phone Marc on 681425 and ask for the firewood hotline.

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JANE BARNES ON AYLESBURY 688987

**Watermarks
ART**



**Ben Taylor
Freelance Artist & Designer
41 Albert St. Tring, Herts
Telephone: Tring 6924**



Church News

I have always been fascinated by mirrors, although I am not one of those people who spend long periods gazing at my reflection. I suppose in these more enlightened days I should transfer my interest to the video camera.

A quick glance in the mirror helps us to see ourselves as others see us. It also reminds us that we all have a "less-good" side. Some people go to quite elaborate lengths to cover up their "less-good" side - even to pretend it is not there. We spend most of our lives trying to resolve the conflict between good and bad - usually trying to do what we think is best.

But what we see as "good" is not necessarily what others see as "good", for they do not stand where we stand, nor can they see with our eyes. What may seem "good" to us is not always in the best interests of our family, or of anyone else. We call people who are only concerned with their own good "selfish" - and rightly so. As parents we may sometimes have to go without some of the things we would like in order to give our children a richer, a more varied, experience of life.

It is easy to take the theory to the extreme and rather enjoy playing the "martyr". We deny ourselves every, even the most innocent, pleasure on the basis that we might be depriving others of the necessities of life. When we try this route we end up by concluding that everything is bad for us and to be avoided, which is a very negative view of life.

There is a hymn, written not very long ago, which counters this view by insisting that "Life is great!" - Life is something that we ought to sing about. We should respond positively and joyfully to the world about us. Life is great because God created it. Life is great because God loves us.

The Easter message is that God's goodness has triumphed over the worst that sinful Man can do. Jesus died for our selfishness and our sinfulness. By rising from the dead it is as though he enables us to go through the mirror, living our lives without the distortions and without the puzzling reflections that seem to make life so complicated for us on this side of the mirror.

Bob Willmott

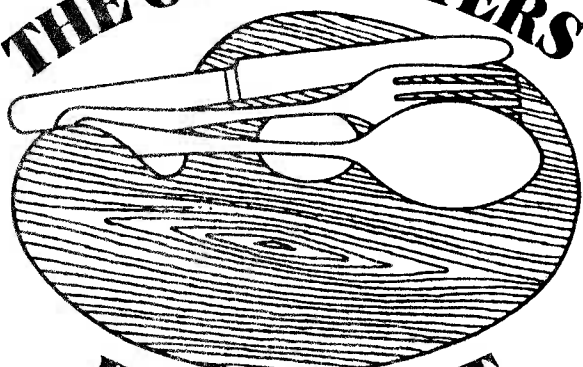
Church services in April

Sidesman

7th April Easter 1	11.15am 1 Pet 1.3-9; John 20.19-29 (p.603)	HOLY COMMUNION	Alison Ford
14th April Easter 2	11.15am Rev 19.6-9; Luke 24.13-35 (p.608)	HOLY COMMUNION	John Ford
21st April Easter 3	11.15am 1 Cor 15.1-11; John 21.1-14 (p.614)	HOLY COMMUNION	Colin Higgs
28th April Easter 4	11.15am Rev 3.14-end; John 21.15-22 (p.618)	HOLY COMMUNION	Michael Hasler

Note: all Holy Communion Rite B

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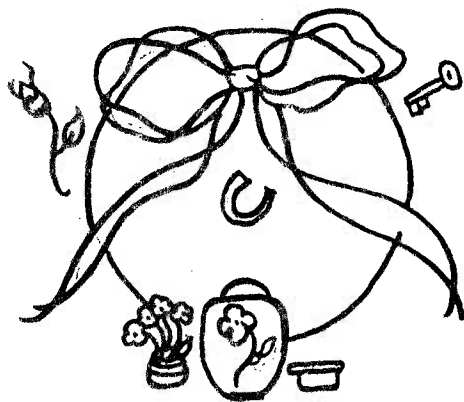
WEATHER THIS WINTER.

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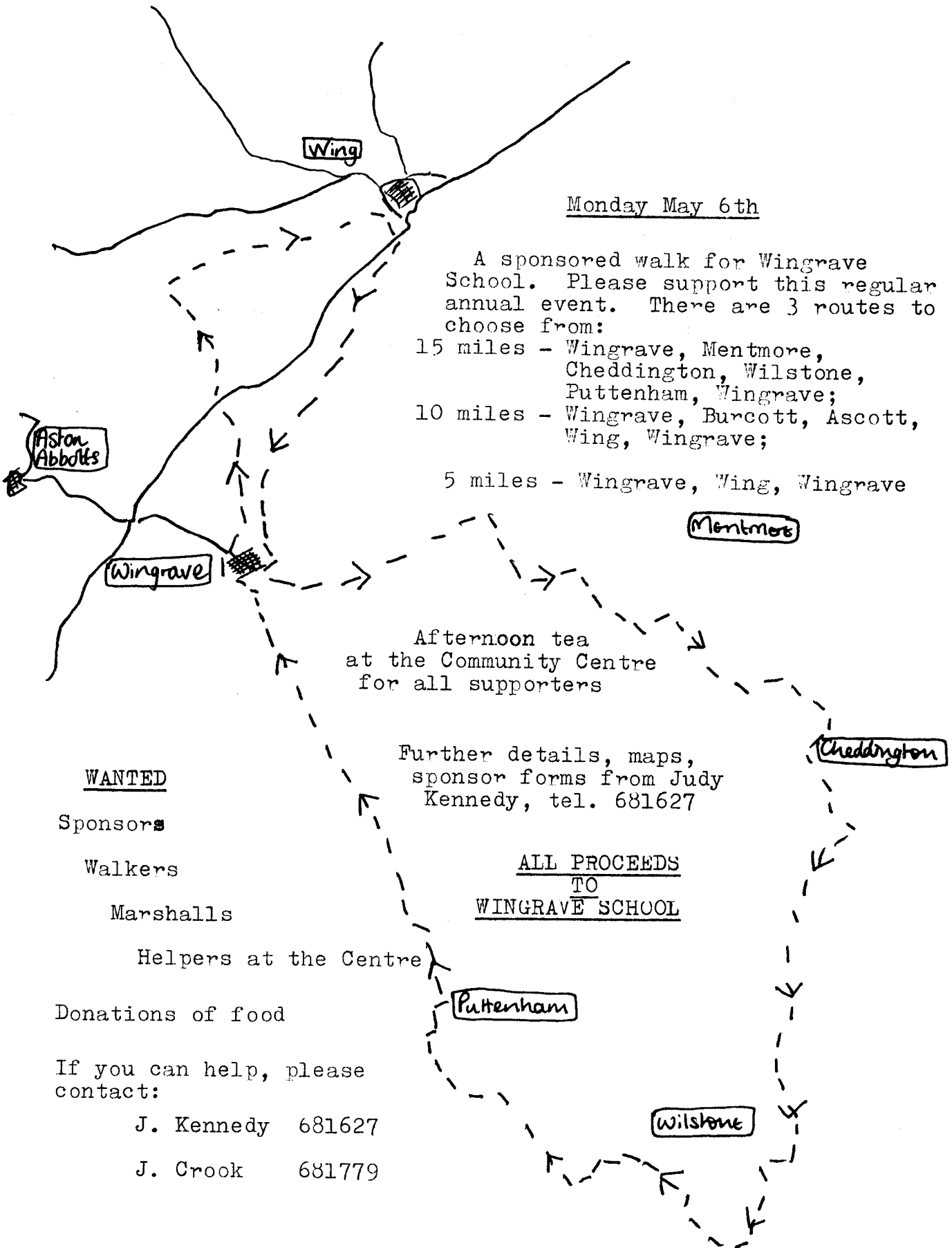


Wingrave Walk

Monday May 6th

A sponsored walk for Wingrave School. Please support this regular annual event. There are 3 routes to choose from:

- 15 miles - Wingrave, Mentmore, Cheddington, Wilstone, Puttenham, Wingrave;
- 10 miles - Wingrave, Burcott, Ascott, Wing, Wingrave;
- 5 miles - Wingrave, Wing, Wingrave



WANTED

Sponsors

Walkers

Marshalls

Helpers at the Centre

Donations of food

If you can help, please contact:

J. Kennedy 681627

J. Crook 681779

ASTON ABBOTTS CHURCH ROOM

AVAILABLE FOR WEDDING RECEPTIONS: BIRTHDAY
PARTIES: FOLK EVENINGS: DANCES: BINGO ETC...

MAXIMUM 60 PEOPLE.

FURTHER DETAILS FROM DORIS SCUTCHINGS ON
AYLESBURY 681243

COST: £2.50 per hour + metered electricity.
£1.50 per hour + metered electricity
for residents of the parish.

The Chronicle

ADVERTISEMENT RATES FOR 1991

FULL PAGE	: Back	£50 per annum
	: Inside	£25 per annum
HALF PAGE	: Back	£25 per annum
	: Inside	£12 per annum
QUARTER PAGE	: Back	£12 per annum
	: Inside	£ 7 per annum
EIGHTH PAGE	: Back	£ 7 per annum
	: Inside	£ 5 per annum
ALL OTHER ADS	: Inside	£ 5 per annum

Please send copy and cheque (made payable
to 'The Chronicle') to John Whyte,
14 Bricstock, Aston Abbots, Aylesbury,
Bucks. Telephone 0296 681685

HELP LINE

Les Smith, 'Gatesgarth', Lines
Hill (Tel: 681368)
Peter Dines, 87 The Green,
681459
Colin Higgs, 6 Wingrave Road
681343
John Whyte, 14 Bricstock
681685
David Watts, 'White Wheels'
681376
Rosemary Franklin, 3 Church Row
681319

+++ HELP IN EMERGENCIES +++

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Colin Higgs (Chairman)
6 Wingrave Rd 681343
John Ford 2 Ross Rd 681865

Bryan Round 11 Nup End Lane,
Wingrave 681621
Roy Malin 3 Ross Rd 681358
Clerk: Margaret Chesher
20 The Green 681201

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It is obviously difficult for those attending the Annual Meeting to remember the details a year later and therefore to know whether the Clerk's minutes are accurate or not. It was therefore agreed at the last Annual Parish Meeting that DRAFT minutes would appear in The Chronicle. Would anyone who believes that the following record is inaccurate please let me know.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held at the Church Room, Aston Abbots, on Friday 1st March at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Chairman of the Parish Council (Colin Higgs), Clerk to the Annual Parish Meeting (Gordon Smith) & 15 members of the parish

MINUTE 1 The minutes of the previous meeting were read, accepted and signed by the Chairman

MINUTE 2 1990 Village Festival. It was reported that takings from the 1990 Festival were £1329, a decrease from the bumper year of 1989, in which takings were £1602. The net profit in 1990 had been £940, and this sum had been distributed. The Festival Fund currently has £270 in a deposit account and £110 in a current account.

MINUTE 3 1991 Village Festival. This is to take place on 20th/21st July. Those known to be willing to serve on the Committee are Shirley and John Ford, Hilary and Michael Hasler, and David Watts (Treasurer). It was stressed that for the event to be a success, more people would be needed for the Committee's work; it was hoped that more people would offer their services.

Distribution of Festival monies. The following distribution was agreed: Recreation Ground 20%; Church Clock Fund 10%; Church Room 10%; Methodist Church 30%; St James's Church 30%. It was noted that no representative of the Toddlers' Group was present. It was suggested that the Toddlers could apply to the Festival Fund or to the 'Concert Fund' if in need.

MINUTE 4 Church Room. The Rector, the Reverend Bob Willmott, reported that misunderstandings concerning the role of the Church Room Committee had now been resolved. Representation on the Committee had been increased. The Room had been redecorated. New cupboards were to be installed. The toilet bowl had been replaced, following damage caused by the severe weather. The current Committee, formed by the PCC, is: The Rev Willmott, Barbara Bellingham, Ruth Bellingham, Chris Brandon, Margaret Chesher, John Ford, Colin Higgs, Doris Scutchings, David Watts, and John Whyte. Church Room funds stood at £1194. The Rector said that the Committee was ready to listen to all ideas in the hope of being of greater service to the village.

/cont...

MINUTE 5 Church Clock Fund. It was reported that the Fund is halfway towards its target and it was strongly hoped that forthcoming fundraising, together with a grant of £300 from the Council for the Care of Churches, would enable the target to be met this year.

MINUTE 6 Minutes. Gordon Smith suggested that draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting should be published in the Chronicle. The proposal was accepted.

MINUTE 7 Gordon Smith suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting should request the Parish Council to undertake a Housing Needs Survey in the village, with the assistance that is on offer from the Bucks Council for Voluntary Service. The suggestion was accepted.

The meeting closed at 7.58pm.

Any corrections please to the Clerk to the Annual Parish Meeting, Gordon Smith, 2 Church Row (telephone 681373).

A MONTHLY LOOK AT FACTS YOU NEVER WANTED TO KNOW

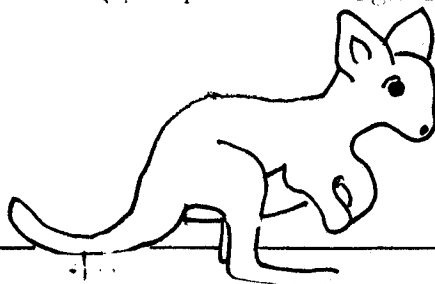
HANGED-BECAUSE OF A STRANGERS DREAM

When Shaun Cott disappeared from the Maitland district of New South Wales last century, it was assumed he had joined the gold rush - until a newcomer to the area had a vivid dream which led the police to dig up part of the farm where Cott had worked. They found his body, with its skull battered in. Cott's employer was hanged for the murder, which would never have been discovered - but for the dream of a stranger.

.....

DOUBLE MILK

The red kangaroo can produce two different kinds of milk at the same time from adjacent teats. While a tiny joey is attached to one of the teats, the other is available to feed a joey which has left the pouch. The elder of the two is given milk with a higher proportion of protein (33 per cent higher) and a much higher proportion of fats (400 per cent higher).



"WISE OLD KANGAROO"

Vicar talks a load of
old...

Memorand. April ² 20th 1696.

It is recorded in the old Register booke of
Abbots Aston, that in the years of our Lord 1564
a Town Bull was bought at Buckingham faire
for eighteen Shillings and ~~five~~ ^{five} pence; of the w^{ch}
ten Shillings and 3^d was paid by the Churchwardens,
and eight Shillings and 2^d out of y^e Church box.

In y^e years of our Lord 1565. it is recorded
thus; Paid to M^r. Solomon for wintering y^e
bull four Shillings. And Anno Dni 1566
Received about Michaelmas for the Town bull
of — 10^{sh} — 10^d. In the year 1566 it is
also said; Received of M^r. Solomon for the
Town bull of — 07 — 00. And Anno Dni
1567. paid for a bull of — 06 — 00^d.

By all which it appears, that the Vicar of
Abbots Aston is not liable to the providing
of or keeping of a Town bull for the Parish
oners, but they are to doe it themselves.

Roger Hitchcocke.

3

Shirley Ford has kindly given us information from her research into the Aston Parochial Church Council minutes book. Was all not quite well in Aston in the 1690s? Why was Roger Hitchcock so on the defensive and who was trying to make him provide the parish with a Town Bull...?

Two Hitchcocks (Roger and Robert, see next page) were vicars of the parish between them for 70 years. Could the parishoners possibly have been feeling the pinch after shelling out £13 two years previously for repairs to the Church House...?



From the minutes book of St James's
Aston Abbots Parochial Church Council

"Memorand.

That in the year of our Lord 1694 the Church House being very much out of Repairs was presented by Robert Hitchcock Vicar of Abbots Aston at the Visitation held at Winslow by the Rev Mr John Cole Archdeacon of St. Albans who admonished the Church Wardens for that year to repair the said Church House before Michael Mass following which was done accordingly the whole charge amounting to the summs of thirteen pounds or thereabouts."

A Levy was made by the Vicar and Churchwardens (John Hobbes and Thomas Hedges) for the repairs of the Church and Church House at the rate of 2 pence in the pound.

Anyone wishing to join the 1991 Campaign for the Comeback of the Abbots Aston Town Bull should contact the Chronicle editors.

APRIL SERVICES IN THE METHODIST CHURCH

7th April	6.00pm	Mrs Mann
14th April	No service	
21st April	6.00pm	Rev P. Lemmon
28th April	6.00pm	Everyone to Aylesbury Methodist Church

Methodist Church Fundraising Evening

The Fundraising Evening on 22nd February raised £70. Thank you to everyone for their support and to Vic Scott for showing slides.

TWINNING NEWS

With the onset of Spring those of us involved with the Twinning Association have plunged into renewed activity.

Already the Junior Football managers have been beavering away to arrange a football weekend in La Bouëxière for 3 Wingrave teams - Under 12s, Under 14s, and Under - er - well - Under 19 or 20 probably! It's rather nice that this older team includes many of the boys who played in the first ever match against La Bouëxière on Sat 3 Nov 1984. They were Under 12s then.



Meanwhile we are preparing for the visit of an estimated 50 or so twinnings from La Bouëxière, who will be in Wingrave Thurs 9 - Sun 12 May. They will arrive on Thursday evening, spend Friday in Stratford (as most of us will be at work), have Saturday with their host families, and leave very early on Sunday morning.

If you are among those tempted to try twinning, or if you are a twinner but have no-one from La Bouëxière coming to stay with you this visit, you can take part in the weekend by joining us in the Community Centre for lunch on Saturday 11 May. A simple but nice buffet meal will be offered to French and English twinnings and to all interested parties. We will be glad to welcome you. You might also like to involve yourself more deeply by having a French family to stay, or by helping us by providing part of the lunch! (Volunteers for both or either please contact Jean Keighley, 681235).

Walkers plan a web of rambles

ASTON Abbotts Rambling Club's Annual Meeting was chaired on Tuesday evening by Doug Ward, who reported that there were 17 new members.

It was noted that a proposed driving range off the Wing to Stewkley Road affected the public footpath and the group had objected.

The Treasurer reported that two fund-raising events - a "spider walk" and a barn dance - had been held during the year and

boosted funds by £124.

The coming spring/summer programme was discussed, including walks to begin from places such as Great Brickhill, Tring, Cublington, Stoke Bruerne, and Haddenham.

This year's spider walk has been arranged for June 2, converging on Aston Abbotts where teas will be served.

The committee was elected as follows: Chairman Doug Ward, Vice-Chairman Len Staples, Secretary Bobbie Ward, Treasurer Robert Green, Press Secretary Colin Higgs, members Yvonne and John Muller, Jean Staples, Viv and Stan Taylor, Jill and Terry Stow and Alan Bowley.

LBO, 26.2.91

● Mr C. Higgs was MC for Thursday evening's whist drive held in the Church Room.
Prizewinners were Mr D. Waite, Mr Gell, Mrs D. Smith, Mr M. Shackshaft, Mrs Hayward, Mrs W. Wesley, Mrs H. Wesley. Raffle: Mrs Hayward, Mrs W. Wesley, Mrs L. Janes and Mr C. Higgs.

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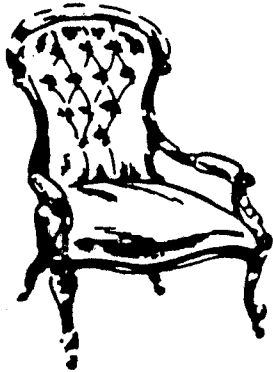
Rupert calms a dragon with a magic Dragon Sweet
(from Rupert and the Dragon Sweets)

A page to colour

F.A.J. Megram
Traditional & Modern Upholstery

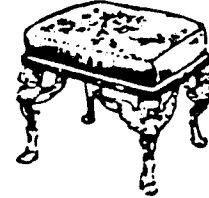
*Thatched Cottage
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Wingrave
Nr Aylesbury
Bucks*

Aylesbury 681464



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