



The Chronicle

November 2019 400

Aston Abbotts Fireworks

TUESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2019

Recreation Ground

Mulled Wine, Hot Dogs and Soup from 5.30

Fireworks from 6.00 pm



Free Entry. Donations at the gates please!!

See inside for Editor's Notes, News, Letters, What's going on and more.....



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Editor's Notes

Speeding through the village continues to be a problem despite efforts of residents and Parish Councillors. The main stretch of **The Green** remains seriously dangerous although, it seems, most of the focus is on **Moat Lane**. I watch from my house, lorries and cars using **The Green** as a straight speeding track despite children using the same stretch of road walking home from school and playing on scooters etc.



I have asked the police to place their temp' '**Police Speed Check Area**' signs from the start of the village to the end of The Green. Although they say they are happy

to supply, nothing has yet appeared. I'll stay on the case.

Had to laugh with utter frustration the news that the new Buckinghamshire Council have designed the **new logo for the council**. They say it's taken a working group **2 months to come up with the design**.



Beggars belief!

Don't forget our very own **public Fireworks display** on Tuesday 5th November with thanks to **Kevin Copping and team and of course the Parish Council**. No bonfire again due to some objection however.

Stay safe. Pete. Editor

What's on in November

Torch Light Ramble followed by Sausage & Mash Supper	Friday 1st November 18.30	Meet Royal Oak
Evensong	Sunday 3rd 18.00	Church
Quiz Night	Sunday 3rd 19.30	Royal Oak
Pilates	Every Tues 09.30	Village Hall
Yoga	Every Wed 17.45	Village Hall
Chip Van	Weds from 20.15	Various
Morning Cafe	Every Thurs 10-12	Village Hall
Whist Drive	Thurs 07/21 19.30	Village Hall
Remembrance Day Church Service	Sunday 10th 10.30	Village Hall.
Bingo	Thursday 14th 19.30	Village Hall
<i>DECEMBER</i>		
<i>Rambling Club</i>	<i>Sunday 1st 14.00</i>	<i>Meet Wing</i>
<i>Advent Sunday Evensong</i>	<i>Sunday 1st 18.00</i>	<i>Church</i>
<i>Christmas Quiz Night</i>	<i>Sunday 1st December 19.30</i>	<i>Royal Oak</i>



Your café needs you!

Our village Café has been running very successfully now for over 15 years, which is definitely something to be proud of. It is really well supported and provides a comfortable and accessible place to chat and catch up with people that you may not otherwise see. We serve teas, coffees, cakes, biscuits and usually bacon or sausage butties, all for an (amazing) 50p per item.

The Café has always been run by volunteers and there is a rota which works very well at the moment. However, we are always pleased to add more names to our list so if you have a couple of hours to spare once a month or so we'd love to hear from you.

The Café is open every Thursday morning between 10.00 and 11.30. We always work in pairs so the duties are shared, the rota is very flexible and we swap between ourselves to accommodate holidays and other commitments. There is no heavy lifting required. The rota is planned by David Gray and has been prepared up to March next year so there is plenty of time to shadow anyone if desired. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved or would like any further information. Failing that...just come along and enjoy a coffee!

You can contact David at: Church Farm House (opposite the Church) or: ukdavidgray@gmail.com

Local News

John Bercow's Seat Candidate filled by Conservatives

Pete Lucas

John Bercow's Buckingham's Parliamentary seat, which includes Aston Abbotts, is now up for grabs following the Conservative's nomination being Greg Smith who works in Marketing and Design. He is to contest the Tory stronghold constituency.

Previously no other major political parties contested the Speaker's seat but the Conservatives had fallen out in a major way with Bercow's Parliamentary behaviour especially with his dealings on Brexit.

Aston Abbotts Parish Council Training on use of Defibrillator

The Parish Council are running two training sessions on the use and application of the Village Defibrillator in the Village Hall on

Saturday 16th November at 10.00 am and 2.00 pm.

The training is kindly provided by Peter Cooper our local South Central Ambulance First Responder. We anticipate the sessions will last around 2 hours. The places are on a first come, first serve basis. Please book your place either by email or telephone and which session you would like to attend to Frank Post as below.

We are hoping that the training will be well supported for this very worthy and important cause. Please note you must be over the age of 18 years and a member of our Parish. Looking forward to seeing you there. Please contact: Frank Post – clerk@astonabbottspc.org or T: 01296 668206

St John
Ambulance

**How to use a
defibrillator
(AED)**



UPDATE ON HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT:

Pls continue using your temporary pass for travel - it will be accepted for travel even if past its expiry date. We've advised all suppliers they must accept temporary

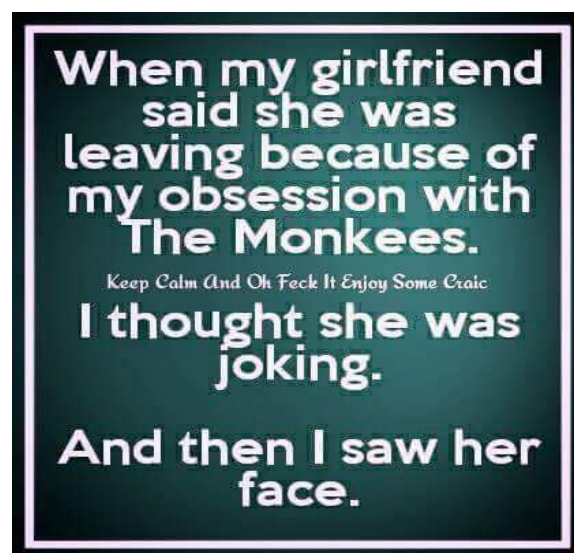
passes for travel. Continue using your temporary pass until you receive your permanent pass - we'll issue these between Nov and 23 Dec and we'll let you know when it's being sent to you.

More Local Bus Services - Monday - Friday, additional bus Ex MK at 6am & 8pm. Ex Aylesbury, the existing bus from MK at 19.30 will terminate at LB. **Saturdays** - Additional journey ex MK at 8.10am & 6.45pm 7.45pm ex Aylesbury. **Sundays** - Frequency will be every 1.5 hrs instead of 2 hrs. All journeys will now go via Bunker Lane, Linslade & serve LB Station. **Service 165** - No change. ***Please use the bus services allocated through Aston Abbots.***
Colin Higgs.

Winter Driving Module - Last year we launched our successful online 'Winter Driving Module', which ended up winning a CIHT award in March 2019.

The 'Winter Driving Module' can be taken by anybody who wants to brush up on their driving skills in winter weather. Even if you took the module last year, there is no harm in taking it again this year as a refresher! You can find the module here:

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/road-safety/winter-driving/winter-driving-online-module/>





Future LuToN expansion consultation: Making best use of our runway

London Luton Airport Ltd is currently scheduled to consult on its expansion proposals from 16 October – 16 December 2019. The proposals will allow the airport to handle up to 32 million passengers a year by 2039, up from nearly 18 million today.

Consultation events will be held across the region – please see futureluton.llal.org.uk for further information and updates. Consultation event dates and venues will be published before the consultation begins.

Your Letters

Dear Peter, I just wanted to warn drivers about driving on the A418. The other evening I was driving home from work through Broughton Burcott and Bierton, as usual I had a driver right behind me lights full on blinding me because I kept within the 30mph speed limit

usually they go round me and fly off but this driver stayed right close until we got through Bierton. I breathed a sigh of relief as they passed me I thought that was the last I would see of this driver but about 500 yards in front of me the driver suddenly stopped in the

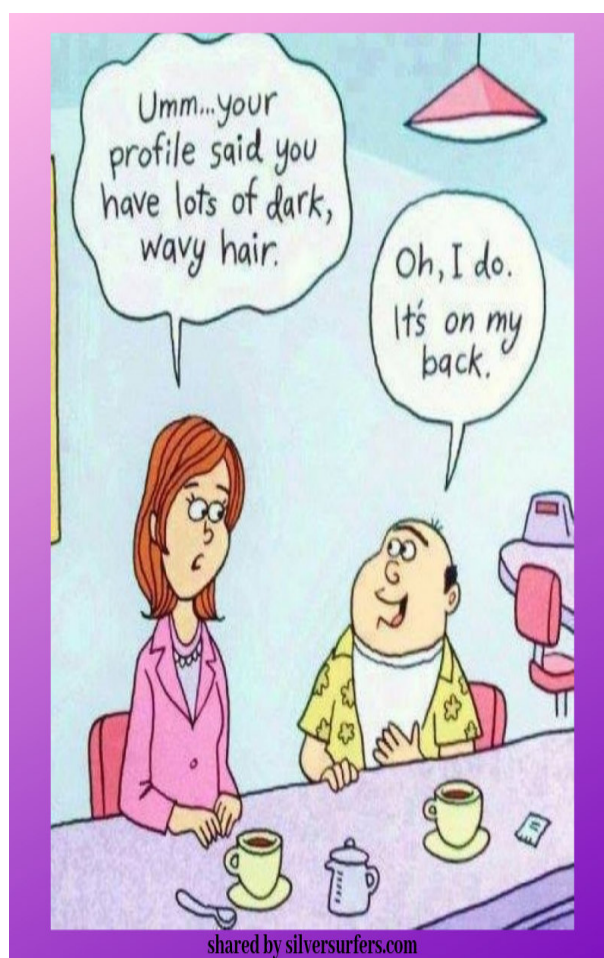
middle of the road got out of his car and started waving his fists and shouting at me. I stopped as I could not get past him he came right up to my car put his hands on the bonnet and started swearing at me calling me every name there was all because I had driven at 30mph . Although I was shaking I kept my nerve made sure all my doors were locked and eventually he got into his car and sped off.

I am fed up with being intimidated by drivers who think that they have every right to break all the speed limits. Unfortunately, I had left my mobile phone in my handbag on the back seat so I was unable to take a photo of this person or call the police.

Thank you. **Lyn**

Dear Ed. On 18 th October we went on one of Colin's mystery bus pass trips. Colin does this once a month but this was the last until the Spring. 6 of us met Colin on the 9 10 bus to Leighton Buzzard then onto Milton Keynes the scenic route on arriving we caught

another bus to Olney where we had coffee in the bull hotel then wandered around the shops until the next bus to Bedford end of the mystery ! we all had fish & chips for lunch then went had time to go to the shops or down to the river. At 3 o'clock made our way home arriving about 5 40 pm .many thanks Colin for a most enjoyable day out **Margaret & Tony Hinds**



Sunday 3rd November 7.30pm

Royal Oak Aston Abbotts



Full cash price. Free Dinner for 2 Draw

Food available

Come join the banter, fun & frolics

1st Sunday of every month

The Aston Abbotts and Cublington Ladies Club.



The club meets at the Village Hall in Aston Abbott's on the third Thursday of every month at 2.30pm. We are a jolly group and enjoy talks on a variety of things interspersed with quizzes, bring and buys, garden parties, outings and more. Our afternoons end with tea and cakes and a raffle.

Please come along and see if you like us. Our next meeting is on November 21st when a representative from Wiltshire

Farm Foods will be coming to tell us about the company and bringing some samples for us to try. Please come along, ladies and chaps, to try them out and see if you like the idea of joining our club.

Our December meeting will actually be on the 12th December, the second Thursday of the month, so as not to clash with another event taking place on 19th December. This takes the form of a short Carol Service followed by afternoon tea provided by the Ladies of the Club.

If you are thinking of possibly joining the club you would be most welcome to join us but please let me know for catering purposes. (My telephone number is 01296707833)

I look forward to hearing from you. **April Gilbert.**

Aston Abbotts Theatre Goers:
MADAGASCAR THE
MUSICAL



On Thursday evening, 19th September, Sondra and I went to Waterside Theatre to see Madagascar The Musical, which has developed from a story line originally produced in the animated film Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa.

It follows the adventures of Alex the Lion (played by 2016's X-Factor winner Matt Terry), Marty the Zebra (played by Posi Marakinyo), Melman the Giraffe (played by Connor Dyer), and Gloria the Hippo (played by Hannah Victoria) as they try to get back to their 'home' in New York's Central Park Zoo. After escaping from the Zoo, when the group find themselves stranded in the wilds of

Madagascar, they discover the reality of actually living in the wild and all it entails isn't what they'd dreamed and they start trying to get back 'home'.

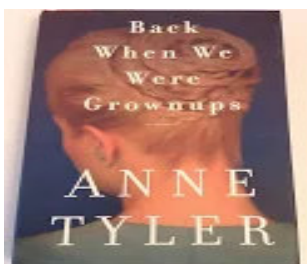
The theatre was packed to the top circle and buzzing with 'children' of all ages. Dressed in their animal costumes and with clever ingenious puppetry, the show opened with catchy songs and dancing and we were introduced to each of the characters as the story unfolded. With clever jokes, energetic dancing and songs throughout, the players and puppeteers kept the audience laughing and entertained. King Julian (played by Kieran Mortell) was especially funny as he shuffled around his 'kingdom' and kept the audience laughing with his madcap expressions. The finale, had all of the cast on stage, and the audience (kids and adults alike) on their feet clapping and 'moving-it' in rhythm to the final songs.

Thanks to Aston Abbotts Theatre Goers for an odd but entertaining evening.

Pam Dixon

ASTON ABBOTTS BOOK CLUB.

Back when we were young: Anne Tyler



Having read and enjoyed an earlier book by Anne Tyler, I thought I would experiment by choosing another Anne Tyler book, but one that I had not read from “the most impressive American author of her generation:

The book’s opening sentence - “Once upon a time there was a woman who discovered she had turned into the wrong person.” - both intrigues and indicates the nature of the novel. This book explores relationships, expectations and dysfunctional families. Rebecca is the woman from this opening sentence, known throughout as Beck, as in, at everybody’s beck and call. She is a middle aged, widowed, American. Her deceased husband had been divorced when they married and Beck had taken on 3 stepdaughters before having a daughter of her own. The girls are known as No No, Biddy, Patch and her own daughter Min Fo. Her husband had run a business from home which involved throwing parties

for people using his own house, amusingly called “Open Arms”. This is not a conventional family.

The Open Arms also houses her former husband’s elderly uncle Poppy; you wouldn’t expect a conventional name. Poppy is obsessed with being 99 and planning his centenary birthday. Although he is very old, he still is looking to the future. Is there one for Beck? Beck’s husband has died in a car accident - the family itself feels like a car crash. As Beck reflects on her daughter’s marriage to Jeep (?), begins to look back at her life and her first High School romance. She wonders whether her whole life would have been different if she had not ended this relationship. This reflection turns into something of a fantasy as Beck searches for this lost first love. Eventually meeting up with her romanticised beau, she finds him to be a deeply disappointing, boring university professor. Her bubble of future hopes and expectations has been punctured. The Book Club generally found the book rather disappointing being somewhat confusing. a storyline difficult to follow and without drama. It does however, tap into the desire to understand what might have been or what might be.

Val

Book Club Review – October

The choice of book this month was Richard Dawkins' 'The God Delusion'. This book was something of a sensation and became a worldwide best seller when published in 2006 as it came just after the London tube and bus bombings and World Trade Centre atrocities. Islam was very much under scrutiny at the time and Dawkins puts Christianity under the spotlight also. Fundamentalism i.e. the belief in the strict, literal interpretation of scripture is perceived by Dawkins as rife in many religions with him providing examples of extreme cruelty and killing which are also cited in both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

Dawkins is an atheist and demonstrates some of the ways in which the findings of modern science support the theories of evolution which were first put forward by Darwin. Evolution is accepted today by many as an explanation of the complexity and diversity of many living things on earth and, as such, disputes the creationist theories of some omnipotent being designing life and introducing it to the world. Dawkins

disputes, for example, the suggestion that the earth is just 6000 years old citing as evidence fossil remains which support the view that the earth is actually millions of years old.

Dawkins also suggests that religion is not required for humans to be 'good' because humans are naturally gregarious and supportive and that these behaviours evolved as being mutually beneficial; hence favouring man's development from apes.

It is a sad fact that religion continues to be the source of many tensions, arguments and wars in the world today: so long as children are segregated and educated in single religious/faith schools then this situation will doubtless continue.

This book is lengthy (400 pages) and, at times, quite a heavy read. Some appreciated Dawkins' views though not everyone enjoyed the book and some gave up before reaching the end. 'The God Delusion' nevertheless created a stimulating debate which resulted in the longest ever discussion on a specific book in Book Club!!!

Pam Hewitt



The Parish Council is looking for a Coordinator and Action Steering Group for this event. Please Contact Jane Baylis on 01296 68104207770774515 or: [\(janebaylis01@gmail.com\)](mailto:janebaylis01@gmail.com)

We are hoping that you will be able to attend the Parish Council Meeting on 3rd December to discuss. Look forward to hearing from you!

TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS - VE DAY 75

I have pleasure in outlining plans for **VE Day 75**, being organised to celebrate and commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day

The 8th May 1945 was the day peace emerged after nearly six years of war, so the 75th anniversary on 8th May 2020 represents an important milestone in

our history. I am sure you will agree that we cannot let this day pass without reflecting on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark period. Our celebration, **VE Day 75**, will cover the weekend of 8th - 10th May 2020, and will be an international celebration of

peace – a time to remember, reflect and pay tribute to the millions who played such a vital part in achieving it.

This includes the Armed Forces personnel from many countries who gave their lives, and those who returned home injured in body and mind; the hard-working women and men who kept the factories, mines, shipyards and farms operating throughout the years of turmoil; the ARP wardens, police officers, doctors, nurses, firemen, local defence volunteers and many others who put their lives on hold to safeguard the home front.

The official, exclusive charity for **VE Day 75** is SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity, which also supports the Merchant Navy.

The planned activities over the weekend are as follows:

The Playing of Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years

The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2

The Cry for Peace, around the World

Churches & cathedrals Ringing out for Peace

Street parties and parties in pubs, clubs, Hotels, on town and village greens and in halls etc

Services of commemoration and celebration in churches, including the reading of the Tribute to the Millions and the playing of the Last Post

Registration for all participants will be solely through www.veday75.org. As well as adding your details you will also be able to download important documents, including a commemorative certificate, and view messages of support from individuals and organisations.

FRIDAY 8TH MAY 2020

3pm – Battle's O'er & VE 75 Years

3pm is the time Winston Churchill officially announced the end of WW2 from the Cabinet Office at 10 Downing Street, London.

Pipers from around the world will open **VE Day 75** by playing Battle's O'er and VE 75 Years at 3pm local time in the country they are in, paying tribute to the millions who gave so much to earn our freedom today. Battle's O'er is the traditional tune played by pipers at the end of a battle, and VE 75 Years has been specially written for this occasion

by Pipe Major Roger Bayes of the City of Norwich Pipe Band.

Battle's O'er will be played by pipers from the top of the four highest Peaks in the UK - Ben Nevis, Scotland; Scafell Pike, England; Mount Snowdon, Wales, and Slieve Donard, Northern Ireland – and also at the five furthest points in the UK. This has never been undertaken before.

We are encouraging pipers working that day to pause at 3pm to play the tune in their workplace. It will provide pipers throughout the world the opportunity to participate without having to take time off work. We are already aware that a nurse will be playing the pipes on her hospital ward, and that others will be playing at a railway company, in a field and outside a bakery. Those pipers taking part can register their involvement at the VE Day 75 website – **www.veday75.org**.

3pm – The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2

To coincide with the playing of Battle's O'er thousands of pubs throughout the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man will encourage customers to raise a glass at 3pm and take part in The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2. All pubs taking part can register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – **www.veday75.org**.

6.55pm – A Cry for Peace Around the World

Town Criers around the world will be undertaking A Cry for Peace Around the World, kindly written for this occasion by Crier Peter Taunton. The 'Cry', which can be downloaded from the website, will be performed at 7pm local time in locations around the world, starting in New Zealand. Those Town Criers and others undertaking this 'Cry' can register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – **www.veday75.org**.

7pm – Ringing out for Peace

Bells in churches and cathedrals will ring out at 7pm in a collective celebration of VE Day 75. The sound of church bells is deeply rooted in British culture. They provide the grand soundtrack to our historic moments, calling us to wake, to pray, to work, to arms, to feast, to celebrate and, in times of crisis, to come together. This aspect of VE Day 75 could not be more appropriate, ringing out around the world to celebrate the peace we share today. Those churches taking part can register their involvement on the VE day website – **www.veday75.org**.

7pm onwards – Parties and Celebration

Parties and celebrations will take place in pubs, clubs and hotels, on town and

village greens and in our streets, bringing the communities of the nation together in common friendship. Those towns and cities twinned with others around the world will be encouraged to invite them to join in this joyous occasion. We know that many of those taking part will be organising firework displays over the weekend too. Those taking part in this celebratory element of the event can register their involvement on the VE day 75 website – **www.veday75.org**.

SATURDAY 9TH MAY 2020

Parties and celebrations continue.

SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2020

10.30am – Church Services of Celebration and Commemoration

Services will take place in cathedrals and churches throughout the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to celebrate the peace we share today and remember those who lost their lives or returned home dreadfully wounded. The services will also recognise the sacrifices of those who kept the nation fed and the factories, mines and hospitals working during the most challenging of times. Churches wishing to take part should register their involvement on the VE Day 75 website – **www.veday75.org**.

Tribute to the Millions & the Last Post

Those planning services will be encouraged to ask a representative from their local community to read out the Tribute to the Millions, which can be downloaded at **www.veday75.org**, and involve a local bugler or trumpeter to play the Last Post and Reveille. Their participation can also be registered on the VE DAY 75 website – **www.veday75.org**.

We do hope that you will take part in **VE Day 75** especially as many of those that served at home and abroad came from the Towns and Parishes of England, so your involvement will be a perfect 'tribute' to the sacrifices made by so many of them.

Please be kind enough to register your involvement in one or more of the events by going to the VE Day 75 Website - **www.veday.org** as soon as possible to enable us to keep in touch with you and update you on progress.

My warmest regards,

Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR
Pageantmaster VE Day 75 Tel: + 44 (0) 7737 262 913 Email:
brunopeek@mac.com



Opening Times

www.buckscommunitylibraries.org/wing/

Mon CLOSED

[@wing library](#)

Tue 14:00 - 19:00

<https://facebook.com/wing.community.library>

Wed 10:00 - 13:00

Please like and share our posts to advertise our events

Thu CLOSED

Fri 14:00 - 17:00

Books: Fiction, Crime, Teen, Non-fiction, Children's,

Sat 10:00 - 13:00

Large print, Audio

Second-hand books and magazines for sale. Tea and coffee, Internet, Photocopying, Printing, Laminating always available. Displays, Local information

Craft sessions for children in school holidays

If you belong to any Buckinghamshire library you can borrow or return books in Wing.

Do you know that we have subscription copies of the *Leighton Buzzard Observer* and *Bucks Herald*; donated copies of *The Economist*, *RHS Gardening*, *Cublington Crier*, *Mature Times* and more Or if you prefer online access, check out

the Digital Resources available in the library – for FREE.



Lego Club - Friday 29 November 15:30 - 16:30



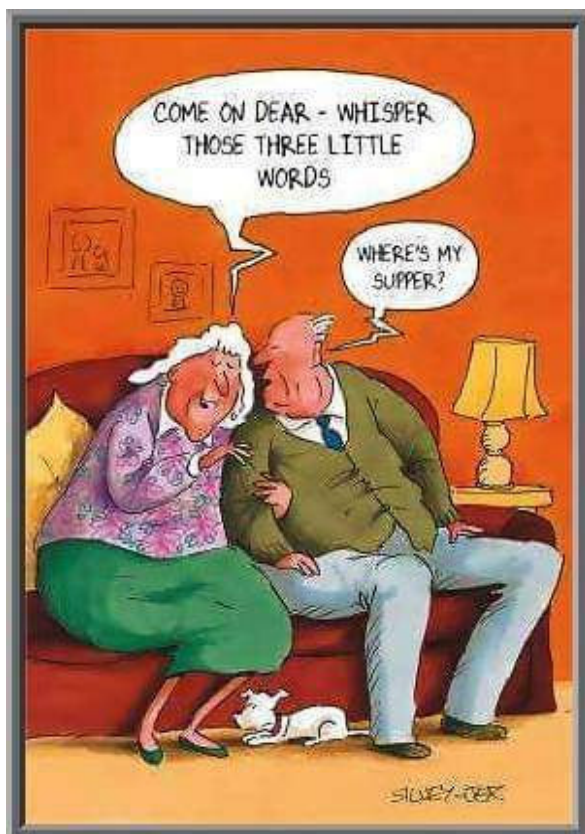
Registered Charity Number 1151925



Are you ready for your 2020 garden waste collection service?

This year's garden waste collection service is nearly over, with final 2019 collections taking place the weeks commencing 18 and 25 November. Your service will be automatically renewed in January, unless you wish to cancel it. An invoice for the 2020 service will be sent in November, allowing all garden waste customers to renew and pay for their 2020 subscription by January. On receipt of payment, your new 2020 sticker will be sent out.

Take a look at your garden waste collection service via your [MyAccount](#) or [find out more about the service online](#).



The Astonians -

Welcoming the new neighbour from Eastern Europe. It was quite an experience meeting our new neighbour fresh from Hungary to the village. I thought I would introduce myself (being the nosey sod I am), but saw him running around his property chasing a load of hens.

Not wanting to interrupt, I decide to put the welcome on hold. In the evening I tried again but just as I walked up the drive, I could see the guy through the window urinate into a glass and then drinking it.

I'm now thinking these odd behaviours are Hungarian or Eastern European customs and didn't want to interrupt. So I left my welcome for another day.

The next day I decided to give it one last go, but on my way to his place, I see the guy leading a bull down his drive-way, tie it to his fence and then put his left ear next to the bull's butt.

Well, I couldn't handle this anymore, so I introduced myself and he said his name was Oleksiy. I asked, what the hell is it with your Eastern European customs? I come over to introduce myself and see you chasing hens. Then you are peeing in a glass and drinking it and today you have your head so close to that bull's butt, it could just about shit on you.'

Oleksiy looked at me very confused and said, I am sorry, these not East European customs I doing, these are English village Customs.'

I said, 'Beg pardon? Those aren't English village customs.'

Oleksiy said, *'Yes they are. Man at travel agency tell me. 'He say to become a true English villager, I must learn to chase chicks, get piss drunk, and listen to bull-shit.*

I saw Bob Tax walking up to us, introduced the two of them and walked away wondering about Brexit!



Good Samaritans Bingo!



£100 raised in October for: **Lifeboats**

Join us on Thursday 14th November Village Hall 7.30pm start

In aid of: **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

The Chronicle Annual Advertising rates

Full Page Inside	£90
Half Page Inside	£50
Quarter Page	£35
One Offs Full	£20
Half	£15
Quarter	£10

Send copy and cheque payable to 'The Chronicle' to John Whyte 14 Bricstock, Aston Abbotts Bucks HP224LP.

<p>Town Farm</p> <p>ART SHOW</p>	<p>Perfectly timed for that special Christmas gift!</p> <p>Paintings, Illustration, Printmaking Ceramics, Sculpture, Woodturning Willow weaving, Embroidery, Jewellery</p> <p>www.townfarmartshow.blogspot.com</p> <p>Mulled wine & homebaked festive treats in aid of Rennie Grove Hospice Care</p> <p>ONE WEEKEND ONLY Friday 22 - Sunday 24 November 10am - 4pm</p> <p>6 Town Farm, Cheddington, Nr Tring, LU7 0TT PLEASE PARK ON HIGH STREET - NOT IN TOWN FARM</p> <p>Free entry</p>
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TVP In the Vale



Crimestoppers is an independent charity



the National Wildlife Crime Unit

We have spent a long time today talking to several farmers about a recent spate of poaching across my neighbourhood. Offenders are cutting the locks off gates or simply smashing through them, driving around fields causing damage to crops and leaving cattle to roam on the roads. Please report any vehicles/headlights in fields at night time ASAP [#p5823](#) [#TVPRural](#) [#WildlifeAndRuralCrime](#)

Royal Oak Pub & Restaurant



Now New Takeaway Service

Filled Jacket Potatoes

Tuna Melt, Cheddar & Onions, Bacon & Brie £5.95 Chilli Con Carne, Curry of the day
£6.50

Filled Baguettes served with Fries

Home cooked Ham & Mustard, Tuna in Mayo, Bacon & Brie, Cheddar & Onion £5.50

Ribeye Steak & Horseradish, Roast Pork & apple sauce, Prawns in Rose Marie sauce
£6.50

01296 681262 / 07809395463



***Services at
Saint James Church - Aston Abbotts
November 2019***

3rd November	6.00pm	Evensong	Revd. Philip Derbyshire
10th November	10.55am	Remembrance Service	Revd. Peter Binns
17th November	9.30am	Breakfast followed by a short service	
24th November	10.00am	Team Eucharist at Mentmore	



Christmas Gift Fair

11 – 3pm 23rd November 2019

**A beautiful selection of gifts
including Christmas
decorations, jewellery, food,
homeware and more...**

The Gateway Conference Centre, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF

FREE PARKING

Entrance £3 / Concessions £1.50



Pace is a charity providing an outstanding education
and first class therapy for disabled children.

thepacecentre.org

Charity No. 1011133

The Madness of War

Dear friends, A year ago we were commemorating the end of WWI, the war that was going to 'end all wars'.

70 years ago we entered into yet more hell with the start of WWII. But that isn't the whole story of that 20 year gap. 1919 saw more wars than we'd seen for ages--- Russia in the middle of a civil war, war between Hungary and Romania, 3rd Anglo-Afghan War, Turkish War of Independence, Irish War of Independence plus at least three other European/Middle Eastern conflicts!

2019 is no better, with all sorts of horrendous wars going on on every continent. What is it with humanity and warfare? Some of it is about greed and control of resources, need for ethnic domination: hate/fear. Just occasionally a moral or ethical principle has a bearing on the situation.

As someone once said 'if war is the answer it must have been a really stupid question'! All this of course is only one side of the story. There are really warm, loving, practically caring people around but they are so easily overlooked in all the noise and clamour.

November 19th marks the feast of St.Hilda of Whitby who lived in the 7th century and she called together the leaders of the northern (Celtic) and southern (Roman) Churches to try and settle the date of Easter for all the Church in England. Seems crazy to us today that this should be the cause of conflict but our clashes would probably seem equally mad to them!

All I know is that Jesus did not believe in violence as the solution to any issue and neither did any other religious leader worthy of the name.

As we remember all victims of war, military and civilian, let us all pray and work for better solutions.

God Bless, Revd.Philip

Church Matters - The diary of St. James's



Shirley Ford is once more organising the Shoebox appeal in the village this year. You have a few days left if you want to contribute (give me a ring on 681952 if you need a form). The Boxes will be collected from Wingrave on 5th November at the start of their journey to Romania, Moldova, Ukraine and Bulgaria but if you get your box to the Parish Church in Aston Abbots (St. James) over the weekend of 2nd/3rd November we will do the rest. Thank you.

The next family service will be on 17th November starting with breakfast in the village hall and going on to a short informal service in the Church. David Gray

Carols and Readings 22nd December 2019.

St. James' Church

Everyone is welcome to our Carols and Readings Service, with children participating, on Sunday 22nd December at 5.30pm.

As my children are now a little too old to take part in the Nativity I will be stepping down from leading it. However, Rebecca Rangeley is interested in helping to put on a small Nativity and would appreciate some assistance. If you have children or grandchildren who would like to take part please can you let Rebecca or I know? You can contact us via the village postie. We look forward to seeing you there!

100 Club Draw October 2019

1st prize, £50 Shirley Ford. 2nd prize, £10 Chris Fox

Church Duties November

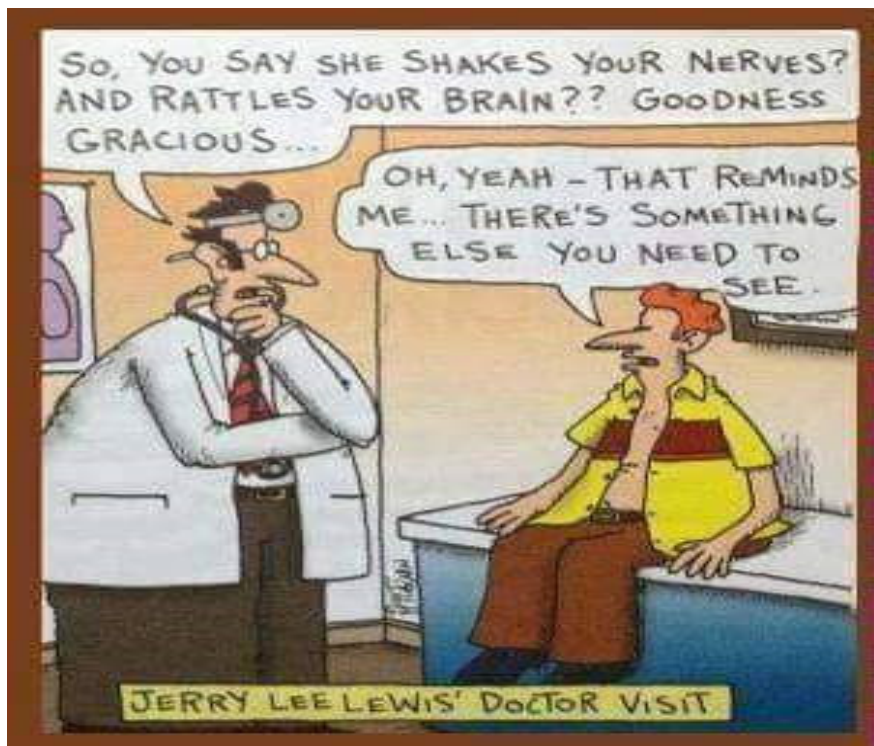
Date	Cleaning	Flowers
2nd	Colin & David	Donated
9th	Caroline & Ann	Remembrance Heather
16th	Alex & Anita	""
23rd	Colin & Gay	TBA
30th	David	Advent



Village Hall Diary

◀ ▶ November 2019

Sun 27	Mon 28	Tue 29	Wed 30	Thu 31	Fri 1	Sat 2
		9:15 Pilates	17:45 YOGA CLASS	9:30 Coffee Morning 16:30 Halloween Party 19:30 Whist	17:30 Restorative Yoga	12:30 Em Farrell
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	19:45 Parochial C C	9:15 Pilates	17:45 YOGA CLASS	9:30 Coffee Morning 19:30 Whist		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		9:15 Pilates	17:45 YOGA CLASS	9:30 Coffee Morning 18:30 Bingo		10 Parish Council
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 Breakfast service		9:15 Pilates	17:45 YOGA CLASS	9:30 Coffee Morning 14 Ladies Club 19:30 Whist		13 Private party
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		9:15 Pilates	17:45 YOGA CLASS	9:30 Coffee Morning		St Andrew's Day 14 Private Function





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ALLOTMENT DIARY

It can be a bit depressing walking round the allotments at this time of year, especially if you do it under grey skies, with the occasional sprinkling of drizzle or shower of rain – which has been very frequent recently. The growing season is now largely over, save for the dedicated gardeners who sow crops to mature over the winter, which is not many of us!

Everywhere you look there are weeds growing, where crops have been dug up: if there is one thing a weed likes it is recently disturbed soil together with a warm autumn (which so far we have been enjoying!), together with an abundance of rain (which unfortunately, as I write, has also been the case).

Having spent the summer and early autumn enjoying the fruits of their labours, and picking the

abundance of vegetables the year has produced, allotment-holders have been satiated, and are now leaving courgettes to turn into marrows; abandoning ripe tomatoes on the vine; and leaving hanging beans to rot, since they are now past their best, and are no longer worth eating. On my allotment there is a small jungle of sweet-corn stems, some ten feet or more high, from which all the cobs have been picked, and either eaten or blanched and frozen. I have discovered from experience it is better to leave sweet-corn stalks in the ground to die off, in order to make their eventual burning easier. If one uproots them now, they are too sappy to burn – and once pulled up they tend to rot, rather than drying out. (Since writing this, I have received a letter indicating that if there is enough support, a skip is to be hired for gardeners to get rid of rubbish from the allotments – and my sweet-corn stems will undoubtedly be candidates for this. While there

can be burned, when they have dried out, it is not a quick or easy exercise).

There are of course still some vegetables which are still available to be enjoyed in weeks to come: in my case leeks, parsnips and beetroot (although the latter may now be past their best). I also have some carrots, although again it would have been better to pick and eat them already.

I am also still adhering to my policy of leaving much of my potato crop in the ground, to be dug up when the potatoes are needed – although this year I will probably try to dig up and store any potatoes still in the ground before Christmas.

Back in my garden my pears have been very slow to ripen. I picked some last week thinking they would ripen in the bowl, and then

discovered a few days later that it was as well that I did so: all the remaining pears I had left on the trees had gone! There was no sign of them on the ground. What animal or bird has a taste for pears, and could have stripped the trees? Squirrels? Crows? Magpies? If any of my readers can enlighten me, I should be very interested to know.

Peter Shorrock



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As each of the chimneys came down, I counted the tens of thousands being added to the value of my house. Not too long after, the house was valued at £375,000.

However, the ex-wife had the lot.

But Christmas Day 1999 was a good year for Pitstone and the surrounding area.



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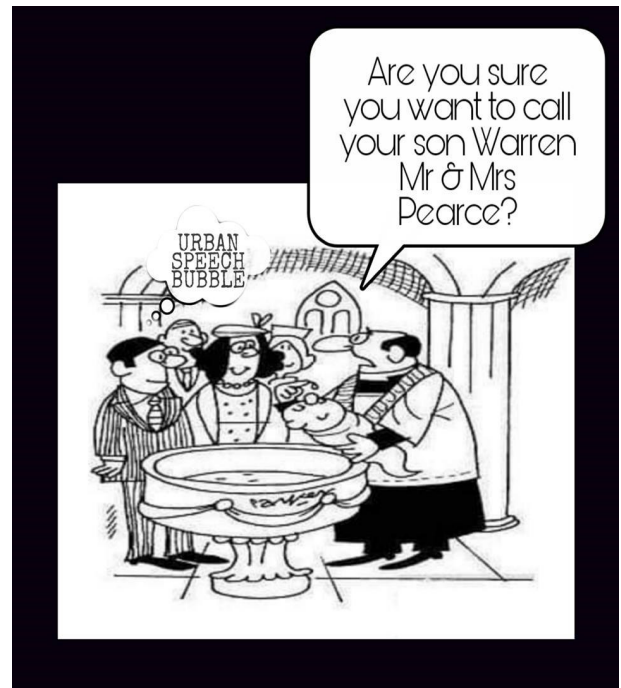
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Wingrave Diary NOVEMBER

Fri 1 Golf Society Day Rose & Crown - Fri 1 1800 WCA Village Family Evening Community Centre - Sat 2 2100 Halloween fancy dress disco and karaoke Rose & Crown - Sun 3 1400 Swingrave tea dance Community Centre - Tue 5 1200 Nup End Café Methodist Church - Tue 5 1930 Parish Council meeting Community Centre - Tue 5 1930 Wingrave Art Club Methodist Church - Wed 6 1000 WI: A.G.M. Methodist Church - Fri 8 1930 "A French Affair" Community Choir concert Community Centre - Sat 9 0845 Men's Breakfast Talk: Is the democracy we have at present fit for purpose for the next half-century? Methodist Church - Sat 9 1900 Fish n' Chip Quiz Night Parish Church - Sun 10 1045 Remembrance Service War Memorial - Mon 11 0930 Weekday Walkers' walk The Green - Tue 12 1930 Quiz Night Rose & Crown - Fri 15 1930 WCA Village bingo Community Centre - Sat 16 2100 Band Night with 'Retrobution' Rose & Crown - Sun 17 0930 Local ramble Nup End Lane - Tue 19 1200 Nup End Café Methodist Church - Tue 19 1930 Wingrave Art Club Methodist Church - Tue 19 2000 WCA Council meeting Community Centre - Wed 20 1200 Last of the Summer Ukuleles Rose & Crown - Thu 21 1800 Copy date for Communiqué - Fri 22 1930 WWRHA meeting: Historic Buildings Community Centre - Sat 23 1400 Karibuni and Ingwavuma joint sale Methodist Church - Mon 25 2000 Friday Fiddlers Session Rose & Crown - Wed 27 1200 Pub Lunch Club Rose & Crown - Thu 28 1600 Fillable pop-up shop Community Centre - Thu 28 1930 Pantomime Community Centre - Fri 29 1930 Pantomime Community Centre - Sat 30 1430 Pantomime matinee Community Centre - Sat 30 1930 Pantomime Community Centre

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