

# Village Life

The community magazine for Aston Clinton,  
Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp

No.13 April-May 2013



Useful info  
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School news  
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One-Tenth page .....	£35

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**The Editor is always pleased to  
receive local news of people,  
clubs and events.**

# Village Life

The bi-monthly community news magazine for Aston Clinton,  
Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp  
(formerly The Parish Magazine)

SOMEBODY told me recently that those most affected by the Arla development are in a state of 'resigned despondency'. If that is so, it is very sad and implies that they feel engulfed by a sense of irretrievable loss and hopelessness. It is true that an area of valued countryside has gone for ever.

Over time, this large industrial complex will become part of the local scene and the sense of loss presently felt by those living nearby should diminish. With the prospect of long-term jobs for our young people at a time when the future is so uncertain, it is some consolation to know that Arla may return some economic well-being in exchange for the lost countryside. Read the latest news on pages 18 to 20.

One of the scourges of modern society is the effect of family breakdown on children. Monika Faranda Bellofiglio implores us on pages 2 and 3 to return to Christian basics in our attitude to the meaning of love.

Relating successfully to our fellow human beings is indirectly the subject of Helen Shepherd's ACS article on page 5. For our children, the ability to express their thoughts, feelings and ideas through spoken language is a life skill of huge value. Effective communication, whether at school, at home or at work, plays a big part in achieving personal goals in life.

There can't be many daughters who are given a real-life school for their birthday. But not every daughter has a Rothschild for a father. The Maskell family relate this anecdote in their brief history of Green Park on page 4.

Did you know that the Aston Martin car is 100 years old this year? Barry Halton tells us on pages 10 and 11 how the link with Aston Clinton is to be celebrated later this year.

There's plenty to read in this issue.

*Alec Just*  
Editor



# Christian thoughts on family breakdown

**A**TUTOR once told me: 'the world would be a beautiful place if it wasn't for the people'. Recent research conducted by the OECD has shown that the UK has one of the highest rates of family breakdown in the Western world with more than 25% of children living with one parent. A High Court Judge, Sir Paul Coleridge, who specialises in family law, urges us to tackle the 'destructive scourge' of divorce and family breakdown pointing to the fact that 3.8 million children are caught up in the family justice system each year. He suggested that people need to re-educate themselves about the value of stable relationships for the good of society.

'Relationship' is perhaps the most fundamental need of every human being, expressed in myriads of songs, e.g. *All you need is love* as much as in the Bible's early statement of *Lo Tov* – 'it is not good that the human being should be alone'. So why is it that there seem to be so many problems in relationships? Why do so many marriages (and partnerships) break down with all the associated heartache, distress and implications for children? Is a Christian marriage any different from a secular one? This is a vast topic, but here I would like to offer two brief aspects for consideration.

The first is that of unrealistic expectations, encouraged largely through the media and the influence of a powerful celebrity culture.

Sir Paul again:

'... all men and women, glamorous or not, are riddled with the same weaknesses and shortcomings which surface even quite soon after the excitement of the wedding has died down' ... 'there is a disconnect between the nature of real long-term relationships and the dramatised and apparently more exciting versions portrayed on screen.' ... 'We all know, all of us who have been in relationships – whether married or unmarried – for a long time ... that the only way that they are made to work and the only way that they become

really qualitatively good is by absolutely grinding away at it.'

So, a good, long-term relationship is hard work indeed. However, when some unrealistic expectations are not met, the conclusion often drawn is that the relationship must be terminated. But – there is always hope and the possibility for change. It is particularly encouraging to hear accounts of amazing transformations where relationships are brought into the life-changing presence of Jesus and individuals experience a complete change in direction. Where two people put Christ at the centre of their relationship and the good of the other above their own self-interest, a relationship has the potential for a long and fruitful partnership with forgiveness as the key to its continuous flourishing.

The second aspect – the 'nature of marriage' – is discussed by C S Lewis in the chapter on Christian marriage in his book *Mere Christianity*. There is a distinction between the feeling of being in love and marriage as a *contract/promise*. If the former is in place *vows of eternal constancy* follow naturally. The

**'Being in love' is a good thing, but it's not the best thing.**

problem arises when the feeling of being 'in love' seems to have ceased, it is assumed that there is no point of continuing the relationship – in spite of children – because *what's the point of two two people staying together who are no longer 'in love'*? There are in fact profound reasons why it is very much worthwhile to pursue the 'higher way'.

'Being in love' is a good thing, but it is not the best thing. We cannot make a feeling the basis of our whole life just as much as we cannot expect a thrill in any other department of our life to last forever. To quote C S Lewis:



# St Michael and All Angels

Regular Services:

9.15am and 6pm each Sunday

and Evening Prayer at 7.30pm each Friday



## Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun 24 March	9.15am	Palm Sunday	St Michael's Church
Mon 25 March	8pm	Stations of the Cross	St Michael's Church
Thurs 28 March	7.30pm	Last Supper Service	AC Baptist Church
Fri 29 March	12noon	Good Friday Worship	St Michael's Church
Sun 31 March	9.15am	Easter Day	St Michael's Church
Sat 18th May	7.30pm	Concert: A Grand Tour: see p.11	St Michael's Church

More details about all these events on the church website [www.s-michaels.org.uk](http://www.s-michaels.org.uk)

## Christian thoughts on family breakdown, *contd.*

'Thrills come at the beginning and do not last. The sort of thrill a boy has at the first idea of flying will not go on when he has joined the RAF and is really learning to fly! The thrill you feel on first seeing some delightful place dies away when you really go to live there'.

So ceasing to be *in love* must not mean ceasing to *love*. Love, in this second sense, is: 'a deep unity maintained by the will and strengthened by habit; reinforced (in Christian marriages) by the grace which both partners ask, and receive, from God. They can have this love for each other even at those moments when they do not like each other'. Being 'in love' first moved them to promise fidelity: this quieter love enables them to keep that promise. It is on this love that the engine of marriage runs. Being 'in love' was simply the explosion that started it.'

Those who try to make thrills a regular diet and prolong them artificially will soon discover the law of diminishing returns. Again, we may get the idea from ....

'novels and plays that 'falling in love' is something quite irresistible, something that happens

to us, like measles. And, because they believe this, some couples throw in the sponge and give in when they find themselves attracted by a new acquaintance.'

Christian spouses will seek – apart from exceptional cases – to make a choice that is in keeping with their promise to God and to each other, finding in the process the truth of what Christ meant when he said that a thing 'will not really live unless it first dies' and also that on the road to the quieter love a world of new thrills in many other areas of life may open up.

Every marriage (or partnership) has the potential to be redeemed and transformed where one or both partners turn to God in repentance and faith for the renewal of their life and their marriage (or partnership). This is the hope that Easter has made possible.

Monika Faranda Bellofiglio

For further information please see:  
[www.marriagefoundation.org.uk/Web/](http://www.marriagefoundation.org.uk/Web/)

and for *The Marriage Course*:  
[www.relationshipcentral.org/marriage-course](http://www.relationshipcentral.org/marriage-course)

# A short history of Green Park

THE ancient Manor House of Aston Clinton was situated in what is now known as Green Park. It was surrounded by a moat and apparently part of the bank was still visible when George Lipscomb wrote his *History of Buckinghamshire* in the middle of the 19th century. By then, however, it had become run-down and was no more than a farmhouse.

The estate was purchased by Anthony de Rothschild in 1851 who built a large, square mansion of a Greek Doric design (Aston Clinton House) in place of the old house. On the right of the entrance was a spring called Wellon Head, which by means of a ram pump provided a good supply of water to the house. There was another spring opposite the front of the house which could give 20 gallons of water per minute.



The grounds were developed at this time and consisted of a formal garden adjacent to the house and the more extensive woodland around. This was planted with evergreens which were popular at the time, with many specimen trees, some of which were newly introduced into England. Many paths wound amongst the trees to give a constantly changing view of trees and shrubs and to provide the 'maximum path in the minimum area'. Walking in the garden was the only opportunity many ladies at that time had for fresh air and exercise.

The Rothschilds built a large number of workers' cottages, and two schools and a village hall were set up under their patronage. When the Rothschilds moved to the village there

was already a school, but only for boys. There were 'schools' for teaching children straw-plaiting, which was the staple industry in Bucks in those days. These were managed by 'Dames' and held in the rooms of cottages. The Rothschild girls (Constance and Annie) started to help out and asked the Rector to lend them the boys' school on a Saturday. (At that time the boys' school stood on the corner of Church Lane between London Road and the churchyard.) There were a number of eager girls and Lady de Rothschild asked her husband to build a school for girls. However, there was still no school for infants and when Sir Anthony asked his daughter Constance what she would like for her birthday present, she answered 'an infant school' and got it!

On the death of Lady Louise de Rothschild in 1910, Aston Clinton House was bequeathed to her two daughters who shared it as a holiday home.

At the start of the Second World War the house was the Green Park Hotel, but during the War the stables were used by Ekco, an electronics company, as its main HQ and for radar research and development. The main house was used as a hospital for war wounded. It later became a boys' prep school (where Evelyn Waugh began his teaching career as a junior master), followed by a further brief spell as a hotel.

It was demolished in 1956-58 when Buckinghamshire County Council acquired the house and park, with the proviso that it be used for educational purposes. Today the estate is used as a residential training centre. The actual site of the mansion is now occupied by the sports complex and many of the original ornamental features of the extended garden still remain. All that remains of the buildings of the estate are the stables and the lodge.

*Richard and Janet Maskell*





# Aston Clinton School

Head: Mrs Helen Shepherd



## Speak up!

IN SEPTEMBER 2012, we reintroduced the class assembly into school. With a very packed curriculum, it was something we used to do but struggled to fit in and so it slipped into obscurity. However last summer, after our Diamond Jubilee celebrations, we were talking as a staff about the importance of every child having the confidence to speak in front of an audience and we decided to put class assemblies back on the timetable.

Speaking clearly and with confidence is a skill that everyone needs. Employers expect to have staff who are effective communicators with their customers. Future employers need to be able to communicate with their staff, suppliers and customers. Future entrepreneurs need to sell and market their ideas. If someone mutters or looks at the floor when they speak, people take little notice of them. To become confident in speaking up in front of groups of people can take practice for all except the supremely confident. So with these thoughts in mind, the staff work with their classes once a year to present an assembly to the school and the parents of the class.

My job has many joys and one of them is to see our children take to the stage and say their lines confidently so all can hear. I always learn something new about what they have been studying and about them as individuals. Recently, we have been treated to the life story of Henry VIII and his wives as well as Tudor dancing and recorder playing from 4EP.

The children obviously enjoyed their theme, their confidence shone through and as a result we, the audience, enjoyed it too.

Class 6HP also had their assembly and they told us about theatre life in Shakespeare's time and re-enacted *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. (Mr Gove's idea of Key Stage 2 children studying Shakespeare is nothing new as we have been studying Shakespeare with Year 6 for several years now.) They made a very complicated story easy to understand and entertained all who saw it. As with class 4EP, we saw children who are very comfortable on the stage as well as those who were being very brave and speaking up in front of an audience for the first time. Some budding Oscar winners were also evident!

As readers will know, we are still undergoing building work and it is not easy to hold whole school events. Class assemblies were another way for us to invite parents in to school to see what we are doing. Comments from parents show they have enjoyed the experience and been proud of their children having the confidence to stand up and speak in public.

I am looking forward to the next assembly with excitement.

*Helen Shepherd*

**The second half of Village Life is packed with information about local trades and services. Their support makes your favourite community magazine possible.**



### Aren't play-dates exhausting?

I HAVE only recently begun to let the children invite friends to 'play'. Let's face it, four small people in the house is more than enough anyway. But I've realised that in the interests of their general popularity, I ought to engage in play-dates.

But isn't pretending to be the perfect mother so tiring? All that trying to be jolly and not completely lose your rag bellowing "COULD YOU ALL JUST SHUT UP FOR A MINUTE" before locking yourself in the garden for some Time Out. I only put myself in Time Out these days because if you are supposed to give them a minute for every year of their life to cool off and calm down, I figure 37 minutes by myself does us all more good than a measly eight, six or four.

And so another child comes into our house at quite possibly the worst time of the day. Known as misery o'clock here, this period begins with the painful walk home from school. It peaks when we get in and I fail to serve the requisite variation of drinks and snacks in the brief window of time before their blood sugar levels dip perilously low and when Scooby Doo comes on. What with the nagging it takes to get the homework done and the piano practised, misery o'clock lasts pretty much until bedtime.

Of course, when one of them has a friend over, it can be guaranteed that the siblings who usually don't want to be within scratching

distance, now wish to be in on whatever the game is and are thus inconsolable when kicked out. More peace-keeping required.

Then there's the food – does anyone else get just a little bit competitive when it comes to feeding other people's children? I know I always ask my kids what they've eaten and so in my attempt to be seen as a 'good' mother, I invariably turn into a less glossy Annabel Karmel, banishing the thought of what kids actually want to eat and spending more time

creating something nutritious yet tasty, than I would do for an adult dinner party. Or at least would do if I ever had the energy actually to sit around a table with other adults over an elegant meal whilst wearing lipstick and something Dry Clean Only.

I can only dream of civilised mealtimes. My lot know that if you want something you have to get in there quick so it's always a scrum. Sometimes I wonder if I should simply set up a trough. I've known other children to sit at my table with their hands over their ears, unable to bear the racket too. The poor things look so relieved when their parents turn up to collect them, as indeed I am. I can only hope and pray then that they will say they had a 'nice time', to not go home hungry or to describe my house as filthy. Like a private affirmation that we ARE normal. Then the apron comes off, the smile is turned back upside down and I'm ready for my Time Out.

*Kelly Cornish*



You will have noticed that the former cash point has not been re-instated in the rebuilt garage, bright and cheerful though the garage is. Those who are not already aware of the fact should know that cash can be withdrawn on a debit card in the Post Office in Aston Clinton.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO MENTION 'VILLAGE LIFE'  
WHEN RESPONDING TO OUR ADVERTISERS**

Aston Clinton, Buckland &amp; Drayton Beauchamp

## Horticultural Society

OUR 17th Annual Spring Show and Plant sale is on **Saturday 6th April** in the Aston Clinton School Hall. We do hope you will come. There is still time to enter many of the classes. Even if you have not grown any daffodils, there are classes for spring flowers and floral art, including a class for novices. Then there are domestic classes open to everybody to enter and a whole host of challenges for children to join in. Please encourage them. Entry night is 6 - 7.45pm on Thursday 4th April, prior to the show, at the Anthony Hall.

Details of all the classes, including recipes for the domestic classes are on our website: [www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](http://www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk) The website has been updated and considerably improved since I announced its creation in the last **Village Life** magazine.

The following **Wednesday 10th April** at 8pm in the Anthony Hall, we have a talk about 'Vegetables for the table all the year round and for the Village Show' by John Branham. John is an expert, as you can see from this photograph. (You can also see a picture of his leeks on our website). He has grown and shown vegetables for many years and lives locally in the Aylesbury Vale. Come to his talk and be inspired, and bring your questions too.

On **Wednesday 8th May** we have a talk with slides by John Morris about the Dorset countryside. We hope you will support the Village Market, run by Aston Clinton School, from 11am on **Sunday 12th May**. The Horticultural Society will have a stall there full of plants for sale, including geraniums, fuchsias, rock plants and hopefully, vegetable plants. If you have any surplus plants, please bring them along. We will also have produce such as rhubarb and jams etc.

Looking back over the winter, the gardens

have been having a tough time, what with the autumn rain, followed by freezing ground and then snow. I hope that the cold has killed off many of our garden bugs! Unfortunately, because of last year's wet weather, it is predicted that our gardens will be infested with slugs and snails that will start eating the new growth during the months of April and May.

For me, Spring in the garden is the best time of the year, with lots of trees and bushes in full flower. You may not have room for a veg patch in your garden but everybody should have at least one flowering tree in their garden. Now is the time to plant potted trees and bushes.

Looking forward to Summer and our Summer Show and Fete, now is the time to plan and grow flowers and vegetables. The show schedule will appear on our website when it is ready. One of the highlights of the Show are the Dahlia classes. Dahlia plants can be bought now but should not be planted out until the threat of frost has passed - towards the end of May.

For those who want to see a really beautiful tulip and spring flower garden, then a visit to Keukenhof in Holland in April or May is a must. I went there for the first time last year.

Looking forward to seeing you at our events.

Ralph Weston



Photo: NYS Bucks DA

A prize-winning display by John Branham who will talk on vegetable growing on Wednesday 10 April



## What we can do when we work together

**M**ANY readers will, hopefully, have heard of the annual Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally, but I wonder how many of us know how it all started.

The Rally is organised by The Game Club, an Aylesbury area charity that raises money for local worthy causes. The Club started in 1985 when a group of a dozen or so friends decided to meet three times a year for lunch at the Partridge Arms in Aston Clinton. At one of those meetings the landlord invited those present to put some money in a collection box he had been given that morning. Funds were being raised to help finance Diane Coates, a wheelchair-bound patient at Stoke Mandeville Hospital's National Spinal Unit. She hoped to compete in the rifle-shooting event at the Paralympic Games taking place after the 1988 able-bodied Olympics in Seoul.

We asked what the target sum being raised was, and were told it was around £2000 to cover flights, carer's expenses, etc. It was suggested that we raise the lot; this was agreed, and fund raising events such as 24-hour sponsored snooker, a sponsored walk and race nights started immediately. After we had raised the money we decided that we should find a proper title for ourselves to use at the official presentation. The name 'The Game Club' was decided upon, and a partridge was adopted as the club emblem (taken from the Partridge Arms where we enjoyed our lunches).

About three weeks before the event Diane discovered that in order to satisfy the competition rules she needed a special wheelchair costing £1650. It was decided that having got so far we should make every effort to raise this amount as well. We achieved it and literally



# THE CHILTERN HILLS VINTAGE VEHICLE RALLY

**SUNDAY 19 MAY 2013 – FROM 10am**

**Woodlands Farm, Aylesbury Road, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury HP22 5AG**

Vintage cars, buses, lorries, military, tractors, traction engines, stationary engines, trade stands, autojumble, refreshments, licensed bar, kids' attractions.

The Chiltern Hills Rally, 137 Bedgrove, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7TR

Tel. 01296 631666 (enquiries) 01296 330901 (entry forms)

Email: [penderjune@aol.com](mailto:penderjune@aol.com) [www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk](http://www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk)

**FREE ENTRY FOR THOSE BOOKED INTO LAST YEAR'S CANCELLED EVENT**



with hours to spare, saw Diane off on her adventure. Our efforts were made all the more satisfying when she returned proudly displaying her Gold Medal.

### **What next?**

We had all had so much fun from the hectic activity surrounding our fund raising efforts that a proposal to continue sponsoring good causes was readily agreed upon. And so it has continued to this day.

Game Club membership has now grown to some 30 people who organise several fund raising events, the main one being 'The Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally' held annually on the third Sunday in May at Woodlands Farm, Weston Road, Aston Clinton next to Aylesbury Rugby Club. This is now the second largest one-day outdoor event in Aylesbury Vale – the largest being the Bucks County Show – and we estimate that on the day around 10,000 people are on site including the proud exhibitors of some 1000 vehicles of various types. There are

entertainments for all the family including catering outlets and a licensed bar. We are in full swing with preparations for our 19th Rally and hope to welcome as many of you as possible on 19th May.

In recent years we have helped many good causes. The Iain Rennie and Florence Nightingale Hospices and the Aylesbury Rugby Club have received major contributions as well as smaller donations which have been made to numerous local organisations including Chiltern Air Ambulance, Whitchurch Cricket Club, Quainton Windmill Society & CHAT (Children, Health and Therapy) to name but a few. We have also assisted many individuals by providing grants for a wide range of purposes from wheelchairs to educational trips.

If you would like further information about our annual rally, do look at our website: [www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk](http://www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk) or contact me on **01296 631666**.

*Ron Miller*

## **My life as a tv director** **Saturday 26 January 2013**

IT'S NOT every Saturday night you hear the local curate explain how she came to be asked on a dinner date to Paris, at gunpoint, by a five star Rwandan general.

But when Carole Peters gave her account at St Michael's Church on Saturday 26th January, of her 20-year career as a tv journalist and documentary film maker and author to raise money for the Benefice Churches, it's not wholly surprising.

In an evening packed with plentiful humour and more exotic locations than a James Bond film, Carole became a personal link to well-known, global stories.

Talking with pride of her work towards the posthumous pardon of Derek Bentley, she gave the audience a glimpse at some of the poignant and painful moments she experienced

while making programmes that changed people's lives.

Despite her remarkable previous life, Carole brought the evening to a close by assuring her captivated audience that she's far happier in her current role working for the good guys!

*Rosie McGee*



Photo: David Lonsdale

# The Astons are coming ...

Classic Aston Martins on show at The Hub on Sunday 1 September

**T**HIS year is Aston Martin's centenary. It is 100 years since Lionel Martin and Robert Bamford first registered their company to build cars with a sporting flavour for like-minded enthusiasts. As most residents of Aston Clinton will know, they part-named their new company after the Aston Hill Climb event, where they had built an enviable reputation for developing competitive cars.

Their first vehicles were built in Kensington but they expanded into larger premises at Feltham in Middlesex in 1926. The cars were entered in the major pre-war races and soon



to new levels of racing success with the DB series of cars, culminating in the company winning the World Sports Car Championship in 1959.

About the same time, the company moved its works to Newport Pagnell. Production of the latest Aston Martins is now based in Oxfordshire but Newport continues as the home of Aston Martin Works Service, where restoration and servicing of the older models is carried out.

The Astons built between 1926 and 1959 are known as the 'Feltham cars' and it is

gained an international reputation in events like Le Mans and the Mille Miglia. But the company was frequently in dire financial straits and shortly after the war was taken over by David Brown. He was a successful engineering magnate with a penchant for fast cars and took the marque



Photo: Barry Hallton

Photo: Barry Hallton

these models which will be visiting Aston Clinton on 1st September, en route from Feltham to Newport Pagnell on a centenary commemorative tour. They will be on display at The Hub, where the drivers and crew will be

having lunch before continuing northwards. And for those more interested in the newest Astons, there should be plenty of those accompanying the vintage and classic participants ...

*Barry Halton*



Photo: Barry Halton

The Pelican Singers of Corpus Christi College Oxford present

## A GRAND TOUR

*A Gastronomic and Musical Journey through Europe*

**Saturday 18 May 2013 at 7pm**

in St Michael's Church Aston Clinton

Enjoy a journey through Europe with choral and organ music accompanied by local dishes and wines



## RAF Association Aylesbury and Halton Branch

Meetings held in Building 259 at RAF Halton on first Wednesday in every month at 7.30 for 8pm. Bar also open every Thursday and Saturday evening 7.30–11pm.

### Dates for your diary

*Wed 3 April:* Social Evening with a Cake Competition. Please contact Ray or Derf for entry rules and conditions.

*Wed 1 May:* "The Curious Disappearance of Major Glenn Miller" – an illustrated talk by Tony Eaton

For further information please contact :

**Ray Mockford** on **07771 591 586** or

**Derf Mockford** on **07775 664 064**

## Aston Park Tennis Club

The Club's newly lit and refurbished court is to be re-opened by local celebrity Mark Webber of Formula 1 racing fame on Saturday 27th April at 11am. See advert on page 21. Don't miss it!

## Travel award

Local travel agents Travel Expressions of Tring, who were set up only two years ago, recently won an award from luxury travel specialists Lusso Travel at a ceremony held at the Grove Hotel in Watford. See advert on page 24.

## Fostering

Anyone aged over 21 years who has a spare bedroom at home to offer a child can apply to become a foster carer. Foster carers can be single, married, straight or gay, rent or own their home, have their own children, be in work or unemployed.

There are many different ways to get involved in fostering – from short or long term fostering, to providing short break or therapeutic foster care. For more information on each of these types of fostering please visit [www.buckscc.gov/fostering](http://www.buckscc.gov/fostering)

## Annual Parish Council Meeting

Aston Clinton Annual Parish Meeting will be at 6.45pm on **Wednesday 1st May 2013** in the Parish Council Meeting Room, Aston Park. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

It is an opportunity for the Parish Council to engage with the local community. The Chairman will report on the activities of the Parish Council over the last year and what is proposed in the coming year. Various village organisations have also been invited to report on their activities; last year ten organisations made a report.

The monthly Parish Council Meeting will follow at 7.30pm.

## Thefts from cars

You are advised to be vigilant and take simple steps to ensure that your car is not targeted. If sat-navs, etc are not left in your car, they can't be stolen. Remember to lock your car.

## A law degree could change your life.

The Part-time law degree at Buckingham University is a four-year programme that results in the award of a qualifying law degree. It is popular with students of all backgrounds and ages who wish to boost their career or qualify as a solicitor/barrister.

The course is a mixture of distance learning and, during term time, seminars on Wednesday evenings.

Term starts 2nd October 2013. For more info and how to apply: [www.buckingham.ac.uk/law/lib/law/parttime](http://www.buckingham.ac.uk/law/lib/law/parttime) or call Margaret Darrell on 01280 828289 or email [margaret.darrell@buckingham.ac.uk](mailto:margaret.darrell@buckingham.ac.uk)



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
BUCKINGHAM

## Aston Clinton Village Market Sunday 12 May 11am-4pm

IT'S TIME to start spreading the excitement that this year's Village Market at Aston Clinton School is **COMING SOON!**

It's a wonderful opportunity to sample and take home a huge selection of farmers' market produce including bread, cheese, pickles and chutneys, home-reared pork, free-range eggs, cakes and locally produced apple juice, wine, cider and much more.

There will be beautiful gift and craft stalls selling handmade jewellery, cards and vintage furniture.

Last year's Village Market attracted 2000 visitors and Angela from Suga Kandi Jewellery said, it was the 'Best organised event I've done in two years' and Sai's World of Gifts and Accessories told us 'the people were great and

the event was a fantastic success'.

Local businesses and interest groups will be there so you can see the vast range of talent available on our very doorstep, and maybe even sign yourself up to a new hobby!

And bring your appetite with you as there will be skilled, local caterers offering a tasty array of exotic flavours for you to choose from. There will also be a BBQ, cafe, Pimms and beer tent to keep you refreshed while you shop.

With pony rides, games and crafts for the children to join in with, our Village Market has something for the whole family. Come for LUNCH, take home DINNER, have a GREAT DAY OUT!

For more information about Village Market or to enquire about booking a stall visit our website: [www.acvillagemarket.co.uk](http://www.acvillagemarket.co.uk) or find us on Facebook.

## Bucks Open Studios

Now in its 28th year, Bucks Open Studios is the largest visual arts event in Buckinghamshire and one of the largest in the country. It will take place 8th-23rd June 2013.

Over 500 artists and makers from the county including painters, glass workers, basket weavers, metal workers, wood turners, jewellery makers, book makers, print makers and silk makers will be opening their studios to the public for free and showcasing their talent through demonstrations, exhibitions and workshops.

Ben Boswell, Joint Chair of Bucks Open Studios and Photographer said:

"We are delighted to announce the dates for this year's event and hope for more participants, new entrants and venues than ever before. We also want to exceed last year's record of just over 38,000 visits made to studios and exhibitions by around 12,000 visitors during the fortnight."

Ben continued: "Bucks Open Studios is a great opportunity for a fascinating day out. You can talk directly to artists, watch demonstrations and even be inspired to take up a new hobby and find your own hidden talent."

To find out more about Bucks Open Studios 2013 or if you are an artist interested in being part of the event, then visit the website: [www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk) where you can sign up for a newsletter to tell you the names and locations of all this year's exhibitors when they are finalised

## Aston Clinton Ladies' Group

**Wed 17 April:** Beetle Drive & Soup Supper  
Cost £1 members; £2 guests

**Wed 15 May:** A talk and slides about the Paralympics by Joyce from Wheelpower

Like to join our friendly group? Please contact Sue on **01296 630740** or Janet on **01296 631014**



## All Saints' Church, Buckland

### Regular Services:

8am Holy Communion each Sunday

11am Morning Worship – First and Third Sundays

6pm Choral Evensong – Fourth Sunday each month

10am Midweek Communion each Wednesday



## Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun 24 March	6.30pm	Words and music for Palm Sunday	All Saints' Church
Tues 26 March	8pm	Taizé Worship for Holy Week	All Saints' Church
Thurs 28 March	7.30pm	Last Supper Service	AC Baptist Church
Fri 29 March	1.20pm	Good Friday worship	All Saints' Church
Sun 31 March	11pm	Easter Fire Family Service	All Saints' Church
Sat 6 April	10am	Produce Stall and Coffee Morning	All Saints' Church
Sat 4 May	10am	Produce Stall and Coffee Morning	All Saints' Church

More details about all these events on the church website [www.allsaintsbuckland.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsbuckland.org.uk)

## Buckland Village Hall

Buckland Village Hall is available to hire. For bookings, please contact Paula Graves on **01296 630310**

## Ditches

Please remember that, if you own a ditch, it is your responsibility to keep it clear from blockages. Throwing rubbish into ditches exacerbates flooding problems.

## Flower Festival Lunch

A fund-raising lunch will be held on **Sat 22nd April** at The Pink House, 25 Beaconsfield Road, Aston Clinton, 12-2pm, for funds towards the Flower Festival at All Saints'. There will be a bring-and-buy sale plus raffle.

Please come and bring your friends. Contact Frances Farley on **01296 630072**

## Flower Festival 2013

A reminder: the Flower Festival at All Saints' will be held over the weekend **22/23 June**.

## Parish Council Meetings

The next meetings of Buckland PC will be held in the Committee Room at Buckland Hall at 7.45pm sharp on the following Mondays: 8 April and 13 May 2013. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held at 8pm on **8th April 2013**, following on from the Parish Council meeting and will be held in the main hall.

If you are the chairperson or secretary of a local club or society, **Village Life** is your platform to tell the rest of us what your club or society has to offer.



## Planning news

### New application

12/02643/APP – Grimble Barn, Main Road.  
Single storey side extension and new entrance  
gates – *No objections.*

13/2000/AWD – A planning application has  
been submitted in respect of the Household  
Waste re-cycling centre at Aston Clinton  
HWRC. The proposal is for overnight parking  
of eight HGVs and two trailers within the con-  
sented development boundary. The location is  
at Aston Clinton Household Waste Recycling  
Centre, College Road North, Aston Clinton.  
The applicant is FCC Environmental (Miss  
Sarah Henderson) on behalf of Bucks CC.

### Decisions

S12/02651-2/ACL – Woodside Lodge,  
Dancers End, Buckland. Certificate of lawfulness  
for a proposed development – *Refused.*

## The Buck Pub: 24-27 May

The final bank holiday in May means only  
one thing in Buckland, and that is Buck  
Pub Weekend!

For the uninitiated, the Buck Pub is a  
fundraiser whereby Buckland Village Hall  
is converted into a Pub, complete with a  
4-day licence to sell alcohol. Villagers  
take turns to man the bar and run the  
kitchen, serving lunches and evening  
meals at very reasonable prices.

It's a wonderful opportunity to gather  
together and enjoy the culinary expertise  
of our Village or simply a pint or two with  
friends. All proceeds are split between All  
Saints' Church and Iain Rennie Hospice.  
Everyone is welcome!

## Contact details for Buckland Parish Council

Mr Nigel Hayward (Chairman)	632094
Mr Phil Hedges (Vice-Chairman)	631550
Mrs Carol Paternoster	630710
Mr Geoff Plowman	632255
Mr Anthony Penn	631204
Mr Clive Carlile	632257
Mr Colin Tufnell	631315

Parish Clerk :  
Mrs Christine Jensen  
The Village Hall, Old School Close  
Halton Village  
Aylesbury HP22 5NG  
Tel: 01296 626073  
Email: [clerk@bucklandpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@bucklandpc.org.uk)



Not long to go before the new Cricket season is here! In this photo from July 2011, Buckland Bucks and Whitchurch Under-11s met for a friendly game on the Bucks' home ground.

# St Mary the Virgin, Drayton Beauchamp

Regular Services:

10.45am each Sunday

6pm Evening Worship each Monday



## Forthcoming Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sun 24 March	10.45am	Palm Sunday	St Mary's Church
Wed 27 March	8pm	A service of Tenebrae	St Mary's Church
Thurs 28 March	7.30pm	Last Supper Service	AC Baptist Church
Fri 29 March	2.30pm	Good Friday Worship	St Mary's Church
Sun 31 March	10.45am	Easter Day	St Mary's Church

More details about these events on the church website [www.s-marys.org.uk](http://www.s-marys.org.uk)

## Speeding through DB

Some of you might have noticed something odd about the contrived photo in the previous issue of **Village Life**. This is what you were meant to see. Your signwriter apologises.



**Just KILL your SPEED!**

## Drayton Beauchamp Summer Concert

Saturday 15 June at 7pm

A welcome return visit by the  
**Artesian String Quartet**

MOZART

String Quartet in G 'Spring', K387

BRITTEN

Three Divertimenti

RAVEL

String Quartet in F major

Tickets £18 including supper and a glass of wine following the concert.

Tickets available from mid-May from

Anne Eardley 01296 434357

Rosemary Brooke 01296 630446 or

Guy Moores 01442 826341

A treat to look forward to!  
Please encourage your friends to join us for  
a summer evening at St Mary's.



## "Drayton Beauchamp: The Village That Time Passed By"

MARGARET Ross and David Lonsdale have been very pleasantly surprised at the complete sell-out of all 300 copies of this book. At least one copy found its way to Australia and several villagers have posted copies to relatives in this country and overseas.

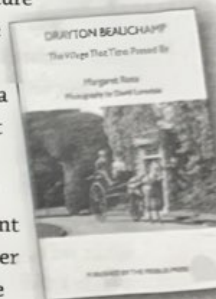
A particular pleasure for David and me has been to have been contacted by people who have no current link with Drayton Beauchamp and whose connection with the village ended many years ago. Hearing somehow about the book, they have rung to order a copy, eager to read about a place which seems to conjure up such happy memories for anyone who has at any time lived here. There have even been instances of old neighbours and friends being reunited as a result.

It seems important to have put Drayton

Beauchamp on the map, in however modest a way, and to have produced something which belongs to former, current and future villagers. The idea that not a single copy remains runs counter to my belief that there should always be a copy available for those who want one. For these reasons, I decided to have a reprint of 100 copies. Because of the reduced print run, the cost of each book is higher than last year, but I have kept the price unchanged at £10. Package and posting where needed will cost a further £3.95.

To order a copy, contact me on **01296 630098** or David Lonsdale on **01296 631791** or e-mail me at [margaret@margaretross.co.uk](mailto:margaret@margaretross.co.uk)

*Margaret Ross*



## Annual Litterblitz 2013

The Annual Litterblitz will take place on **Saturday 13 April** at 10am (weather permitting). Rubber gloves and wellington boots are advisable. Please meet at Lower Farm to collect refuse bags. The customary refreshments will be served afterwards.

## Women's Institute

Forthcoming meetings – all at 7.30pm in the Anthony Hall:

**Wed 3 April:** Beetle Drive

**Wed 1 May:** Resolutions Meeting

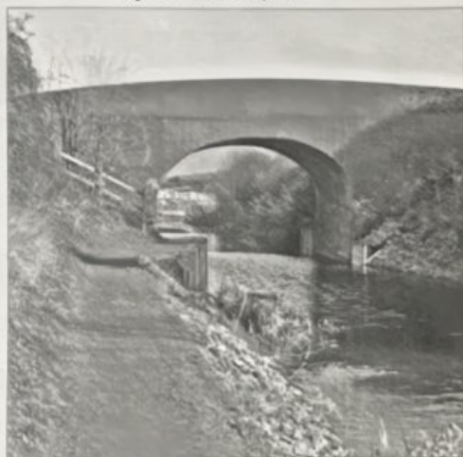
**Wed 5 June:** 'Small Changes, Big Difference' when Dale Hoyland will be talking on an eco-friendly lifestyle and 'How to Keep Warm in Winter'.

**Wed 3 July:** Sue Benwell will talk about writing the book *My Life* with Sir Norman Wisdom.

## Parish Meeting

A Parish Meeting is to be held at St. Mary's Church on Tuesday April 23 2013 at 8pm. All residents are welcome to attend.

What could be better than an early Spring afternoon walk in the sunshine through St Mary's churchyard and down along the canal towpath?



**Please support our advertisers**

# The Arla Dairy – latest news

**M**OST people now accept that the Arla development, just off the A41, near Buckland, is not likely to have the environmental impact at first feared.

Now, with commercial production just months away, the dairy is an impressive sight. In little over a year since the start of building, the monumental scale of the development is very apparent. The view most of us have is what we see from the A41 and the Household Waste and Recycling Centre facing the Arla site.

In February, your Editor had a tour of the partly-finished complex, conducted by Mr Jakob Nielsen, Arla's Aylesbury Dairy Project Director. As his name suggests, Mr Nielsen hails from Scandinavia: Denmark to be precise. Arla Foods itself is a global dairy business co-owned by over 12,000 dairy farmers in Denmark, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg. Its global head office is at Aarhus in Denmark.

## History of Arla

The word 'Arla' means 'early' in Swedish and alludes to the time dairy farmers have to begin their day. In 1881 a co-operative dairy was founded in Sweden. Over the following decades many more co-operative dairies were formed. Through the 20th century many of these small co-ops merged until, in 1974, the name Arla was given to the large dairy business that finally emerged from this process.

In Denmark, much the same went on although the pace of consolidation was slower than in Sweden. In 1999, MD Foods, the biggest dairy co-operative in Denmark, and Arla in Sweden merged to form Arla Foods.

The first decade or so of the 21st century saw a rapid expansion of Arla Foods across

northern Europe and into North America. In 2007 Arla acquired Express Dairies in the UK and Arla Foods UK plc was formed. In 2008 UK dairy farmers were invited to become part-owners of Arla Foods UK.

Finally, to bring the story up-to-date, last year Arla and Milk Link, one of the biggest dairy co-operatives in Britain, merged to form the biggest dairy in the UK with milk processing factories across the country. The name Arla is less well known to UK consumers than some of its branded products such as Anchor and Lurpak butter and spreads.

Over the last ten years Arla has established ventures in the Middle East and China and now claims to be a truly global company.

## Why Aylesbury?

With its recent rapid UK expansion, Arla faced the need to realise economies of scale if it was

to retain its competitive edge whilst protecting the interests of its dairy farmers. The Midlands and South-East are where most British people live whereas most UK milk is produced in the West Country. Taking account of the trunk road network, Arla concluded that the Aylesbury area was the best strategic location for what was planned to become the largest fresh milk dairy in Europe, providing a billion litres of milk every year to millions of

people in London and SE England.

As we all remember, when the plans were announced, some of the people in whose 'backyard' this large industrial complex would be built, were understandably up-in-arms. The loss of countryside was seen as desecration. Faced with that loss and fearing traffic chaos – with milk tankers bringing raw milk to the dairy 24/7 plus even more vehicles leaving,



The bottled milk cold store at Arla's Stourton dairy

Photo: Stewart Jackson Photography



laden with bottled milk – the angry protestors got together to mount a determined campaign to stop the development.

Like most enlightened big companies, Arla understood that to risk alienating their future neighbours was not the best way to do business. The planning application was postponed for many months while Arla sought to address the objections.

A liaison group with residents most closely affected was set up on an ongoing basis. As a result of the consultation process, Arla agreed to change the exterior of the buildings to pastel autumnal colours. They also agreed to provide an all-weather surface to the canal towpath to enable employees to cycle between Aylesbury and the dairy site. Many other changes to the original proposals were made to minimise the visual impact of the complex.

#### **Corporate responsibility**

Arla's philosophy for its dairies is that they should be 'lean, mean and green'. That translates to an aspiration that they should be built with simple, functional forms; that they should be operationally efficient, conservative in their

use of energy and that they should seek not to contaminate and pollute the environment.

Mr Nielsen told me that Arla's aim for the new dairy is that it will have zero carbon emissions.

I saw for myself how the dairy is designed as a self-contained, integrated unit, or rather a series of inter-connected units. The refrigerated raw milk tankers will arrive from the farms – their raw milk will be pumped into an array of storage silos from which it will go to the purification, grading and bottling hall – a vast space. The bottled milk will be stored in another vast chilled space – bigger than several football pitches – and then allocated by a computerised laser-controlled delivery system to the delivery lorry loading areas on the far side of the dairy. The dairy will have its own energy centre from which and to which heat will be delivered or extracted depending on processing needs.

The Arla Aylesbury dairy will be one of the most modern fresh milk processing facilities in the world. There will be a visitor centre, school visits will be encouraged and importantly, there is the prospect of training and jobs for our young people. *Continued overleaf*

The milk silos, photographed last November. The dairy is looking less like an oil refinery by the day. Arla are putting great effort into creating an industrial complex that, when complete, will blend into its surroundings.



Photo: Ian Pickering Photography

## Arla, *contd.*

### Adjusting to change

None of us is instinctively willing to accept change in what is agreeably familiar to us. We especially value the natural environment and feel almost a sacred duty to protect and preserve what we have enjoyed and pass it on to future generations.

However, change in our environment is unavoidable if our nation is to remain prosperous into the future. What really matters is how we manage change. We have a fair and democratic process for considering proposals to alter the appearance of our surroundings through development. In this instance Arla was required

to make its case why Aston Clinton was the best site for the mega-dairy. Arla also had to show that every possible step would be taken to mitigate its impact on the natural environment. Those most closely affected were free to make their case in opposition. All arguments were heard and a decision was eventually made.

Aylesbury Vale is a large area. It is probable that the Arla dairy, despite its size, will be absorbed into the local landscape which will remain predominantly green and pleasant. The liaison body, set up by Arla and local residents, shows that change can be managed intelligently and sensitively. *Alec Just*

Photos: Ian Pickering Photography



Above: a view of the entire development, photographed in early February 2013

Below: an artist's impression of the completed dairy with one of the new onsite ponds in the foreground





To celebrate the official  
opening of our upgraded  
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# Useful telephone numbers

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact / Line status</b>	<b>Telephone no. / Email</b>
1st Aston Clinton Brownies	See below*	-
2nd Aston Clinton Brownies	See below*	-
Amersham Hospital		01494 434411
Anthony Hall (Bookings Sec)	Valerie Owen	01296 630303
Aston Clinton Badminton Club	Maureen Davison	07958 479690
Aston Clinton Baptist Church	Simon Downing	01296 631824
Aston Clinton Parish Council	Claire Hill	01296 631269
Aston Clinton School	Helen Shepherd	01296 630276
Aston Clinton U3A	John Bullard	01296 436403
Aston Clinton Youth Club	Brian Churchill	01296 630142
Aston Park Tennis Club	Luanda Bury	01296 630169
Aston Wine Club	Penny Ginger	01296 630383
Ballet, Tap and Jazz Classes	JoAnn Latus	07800 518654
Ballroom Dancing	Yvonne Domican	01296 630467
Baptist Church Hall	Valerie Owen	01296 630303
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts	Hilda Higenbottom	01296 632586
Bowls Club	Rosemary Stratfull	01296 631339
Buckland Bridge Club	Viv Barton	01296 630776
Buckland Village Hall (Bookings Sec)	Paula Graves	01296 630310
Buckland Parish Council	Christine Jensen	01296 626073
Buckland Society	Kelly Cornish	01296 632119
Childline		0800 1111
Citizens Advice Bureau		0870 126 4056
Cricket Club	Mike Parsonage	01296 631788
Crimestoppers		0800 555 111
Dentists' Surgery		08443 756336
Dial-a-Ride		01296 330088
Doctors' Surgery		01296 630241
Drayton Beauchamp Parish Meeting	Meryl Nodes	01296 630396
<b>Electricity emergency</b>		0800 7838 838
Environmental Health	Out of hours	01296 585093
Environmental Health	Helpline	01296 585605
Fly tipping	Hotline	0845 330 1856
Football: Aston Clinton FC	Mark Foster	07831 765738
Football: Aston Park FC	Ken Workman	01296 631504
Football: AC Colts	Ray Lucas	01296 630076
<b>Gas emergency</b>		0800 111 999
Green Park Life Saving Assocn	John Lessingham	01296 622613
Guides	See below*	-



<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact/Line status</b>	<b>Telephone no. / Email</b>
High Wycombe Hospital		01494 526161
Highways on Call	9am – 5pm	0845 230 2882
Highways on Call	Out of hours	01296 486630
Horticultural Society	Maureen Ridler	01296 633376
John Radcliffe Hospital		01865 741166
Ladies Group	Irene Wharton	01296 630195
<b>Local Councillors:</b>		
Bucks County	Bill Chapple OBE	01296 426814/382095
Aylesbury Vale District	Carole Paternoster	01296 630710/585717
Aylesbury Vale District	David Thompson	01296 425656
Aylesbury Vale District	Phil Yerby	07769 621507
Luncheon Club	Marion Richards	01296 630577
Marsworth Pre-School Group		07506 179658
MP for Aylesbury	David Lidington	020 7219 3432
Neighbour'd Watch Administrator	Helen Thomas	01296 396262
Neighbourhood Watch, Buckland	Edwin Domican	01296 630467
Neighbourhood Watch, DB	Elizabeth Dutton	01296 631613
NHS Direct		0845 4647
Old Friends	Selly Clarke	01296 630207
Police	Non emergency	101
Pre-School	Jo Johnson	01296 632672
RAF Association (local branch)	Selly Clarke	01296 630207
RAF Halton (Mon-Fri )	0800-1700hrs	01296 656367
RAF Halton	At all other times	01296 656211
Rector	Revd Elizabeth Moxley	01296 632488
Royal British Legion	Janet Tye	01296 434866
SSAFA Forces Help	Ann Smith	01296 631030
Stoke Mandeville Hospital		01296 315000
Tot Spot (Baptist Church)	Nicky Downing	01296 631824
Trading Standards		0845 4040506
Veterinary Centre		01296 630600
Women's Institute	Linda Mephram	linda_mephram@hotmail.com

\* To register an interest in joining the Brownies or Guides, visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

**Any error or omission in this list should be notified to the Editor**

## Police information

The Police Community Support Officers who have been assigned to the area are Mandy Aplin and Christina Pringle. Wendover Police Station is open to the public: Monday to Friday, 9am-1pm. The new non-emergency number is 101. For **real** emergencies the number is 999.



## Travel Expressions

### Thinking about your next holiday?

With over 30 years experience, we offer independent advice and a personal service. We understand that no two holidays are the same and whilst we may not have visited all four corners of the world, we do know someone who has, and would like to share their experiences with you. Your holidays are booked only with fully bonded tour operators ensuring financial protection. You can contact us by phone or email, alternatively please visit our office to discuss your travel ideas over a tea or coffee.

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Afternoon Session: 12.30pm-3pm

For further information, details of funding, session availability or to arrange a visit, please call 07506 179658 or visit our website

[www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk](http://www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk)

*Brown & Merry*

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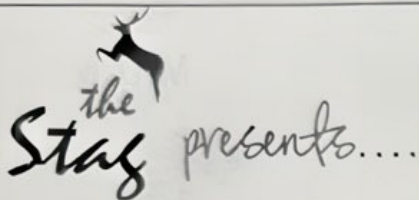
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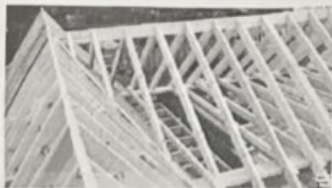
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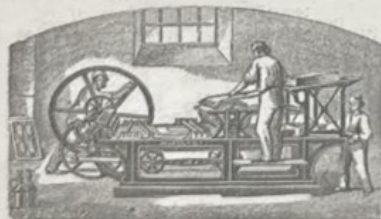
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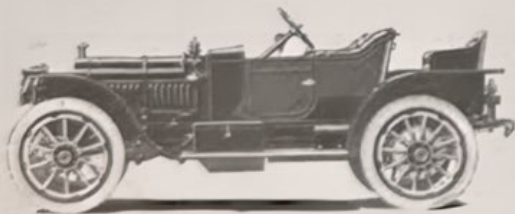
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