

In brief...

PATIENTS from an Aylesbury surgery helped celebrate the retirement of their local doctor at the weekend.

They raised nearly £2,000 for Dr Nigel Kennedy which they presented to him during a tea party held at the Council Chambers on Sunday.

He is retiring after 26 years at the surgery and his oldest patient, 102-year-old Nora Tapping, was on hand to present the cheque.

Dr Kennedy will use the money to commission a painting of Aylesbury Vale so he can be reminded of the area when he moves to live closer to his grandchildren.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE Primary Care Trust will hold its AGM on Thursday.

The trust hopes the meeting, at 7pm in Chesham Town Hall, will encourage the public to become more involved. It will also set out its plans for the coming year.

A RECENTLY discovered Winston Churchill painting, which was due to be sold at the weekend at a Middle Claydon auction house, was withdrawn from sale due to computer problems. The painting, of Windlesham Moor in Surrey, valued at more than £120,000, will now be sold next year.

PUT the kettle on in Aylesbury Vale to support Macmillan's Biggest Coffee morning this Friday.

St Joseph's Catholic Infant School on Hazell Avenue, will be doing just that from 9.15am to 11.15 am.

Visit www.macmillan.org.uk to find out how to take part.

£10,000 boost for MS centre



The Aims2Cure group present their cheque for £10,000 to the Chiltern MS Centre in Halton. Alan Carr, seated, and John Greaves, chairman of the centre, are pictured with the cheque

PHOTOGRAPH: RICHARD DUGGAN I50908D02

THE CHILTERN MS Centre in Halton received a major cash boost to the tune of £10,000 last week, funds that will go towards a new service in podiatry - the study of abnormalities of feet.

Aims2Cure, a charity which funds research into finding a cure for multiple sclerosis, awarded the centre the money last Monday.

The centre, which is currently experiencing 'challenging times', already provides a range of over 17 drug-free symptom management therapies to nearly 500 people from six counties in the Chilterns and surrounding area.

As the NHS is unable to provide long-term treatment for people with MS, the service provided at the Chilterns MS Centre is often a lifeline for people with what is an

incurable, debilitating, neurological condition that affects more than 85,000 people in the UK.

John Greaves, a patient and also chairman of the trustees for the MS Centre, said: "We are extremely grateful to everyone from Aims2Cure for this fabulous donation towards what is a very important and much needed service. The Chilterns MS Centre is going through a challenging time but support like this makes a huge difference."

Each year, it costs more than £350,000 to fund the work of the MS Centre. In addition, the centre is currently raising £1.5m towards a new building. The donation from Aims2Cure will enable the podiatry service to start in October, much sooner than would have been possible without their support.

Grow your own to beat the credit crunch

PEOPLE looking to beat the rising cost of living and grow their own fruit and vegetables are invited to a free event at Wyevale Garden Centre - World's End in Buckinghamshire from this weekend.

Currently vegetable seed sales have succeeded flower seed sales

for the first time since the Dig for Victory campaign in the Second World War and the centre, on Aylesbury Road, is hosting a 'Get Growing in the Autumn' event to encourage people to pull on their wellies and beat the recession by growing their own food.

Until October 5 staff will be

offering practical, hands-on advice on growing fruit, vegetables and herbs in gardens, allotments and even in containers on patios and windowsills.

For further details visit or call the centre on 01296 623116. Details on www.wyevale.co.uk

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