

# The Chiltern Hundreds



Individual members of parliament cannot resign but must instead use the device of applying for a disqualifying office of profit under the crown – namely they become bailiff of the *Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough and Burnham*, once the wooded haunt of robbers whom the appointed steward had to catch and kill. As highwaymen these days no longer feature on the roads through the *Chiltern Hills* between London and Oxford, the centuries-old post bears no salary, no responsibilities and is retained until someone else applies for it. There is no great rush...