

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley

Volume 25, No. 7

August 2002

## DRAYTON SPORTS FACILITY?

Do you think it would be good to have more organised sports facilities around Drayton Hall? Andrew Bax, on behalf of the Drayton Community Trust, asked in the June Chronicle for ideas to improve our village and one suggestion received by the Trust is for more sports facilities.

Our Millennium Green is well established now, a marvellous place to walk or sit, especially on the hot summer days that come to England just occasionally. But its charter specifically excludes organised sports – they do not mix well with wild flowers and walnut trees. Yet many of us, the young in years and/or in spirit, do want to play cricket or football or tennis or bowls. Might it not be good if Drayton could offer these facilities as well as its lovely Millennium Green?

The specific suggestion made to the Community Trust was to obtain some more land next to the existing recreation ground and develop it to include an all weather area, with lighting for tennis, basketball, netball, 5-a-side football, perhaps a skate-board area, as well as another football pitch and perhaps a bowls green. The Hall itself might be extended and modified to include changing areas, showers and equipment storage. The Hall might then provide a better base for a youth club.

If you have any comments or suggestions please send them to Paul Knight, chair of the Parish Council, or to Andrew Bax, chair of the Drayton Community Trust, or to Peter Fleming, chair of Drayton Hall, or tell us at the Chronicle. If you leave letters for Paul Knight or Andrew Bax or Peter Fleming in the Chronicle box outside Vickery's, we will pass them on for you.

## LUCK - BE A LADY!

Luck can be a cruel tyrant here and a fairy godmother there. She cares nothing for justice. We know of someone who has helped the Chronicle in many ways since it began and bought our Lottery tickets every month, without ever winning a prize. Yet this month, the lucky Mr Cassingham has won both the first and second prizes!

A one-in-a-million chance? Actually no! Since we sell about 2000 tickets each month and people typically buy about 5, there was a roughly 50% chance that someone, not necessarily Mr Cassingham of course, would win both 1st and 2nd prizes at sometime during the 20 years or so the Chronicle has been produced. We should therefore not be surprised. We might wish luck were fairer, but perhaps it's best to accept that because she's not life is more fun!

Please keep buying the tickets!

## DRAYTON'S INTREPID WOMEN

Delight in amazing achievement is universal, whether it be by men or women! We saw it most recently in the millions who wanted to join the celebrations of the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth. They recognised how well she has embodied our national heritage, with great dignity through all the swings and roundabouts of political and economic change, as industries and Prime Ministers have come and gone, as social norms have been swept away and replaced. Boadicea and the two Queens Elizabeth, Florence Nightingale and Elizabeth Fry, Barbara Castle and Margaret Thatcher; all these women of courage and determination are national treasures.



Polly Vacher MBE

In Drayton we can delight in our own heroic women; Daphne running the whole length of our country; Polly flying solo round the world. Congratulations to Polly, on being appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honours, and on being given a Saga Gold Hero Award. The Saga citation says: 'A British Gold Hero Medal is awarded to Polly Vacher to honour her courage and valour in being the first woman to fly round the world in the smallest aircraft, a Piper Dakota, in 124 days'. As in everything else to do with Saga, she also had to be over 50!!

Polly gave the Chronicle some of her thoughts about all this. 'The MBE is a great honour. However, I feel that it is really to be shared by all the wonderful people who supported the whole 'Wings Around the World' project, many of whom live in Drayton. The support I had was magnificent.

I think of it as a pyramid. I am sitting at the top, supported first by Peter and my wonderful family. Supporting that was my team of five members of the British Women Pilots' Association (BWPA) who unstintingly gave of their time for nearly three years to make the whole project possible. Then my four principal sponsors - Jeppesen, Shell, Birmingham International Airport and the RAF – with the 26 other commercial sponsors. At the base of the pyramid, but no less important were the 1,400 people who paid £25 to have their names on my wings to 'fly around the world with me'.

All that money went towards The Royal International Air Tattoo Flying Scholarships for the Disabled. So far we have raised £184,000 for The Flying Scholarships, which is a scheme aimed specifically to help disabled people find a new challenge in life. It is a fantastic scheme, and the scholars display such amazing courage - it is both humbling and inspirational.

The MBE gives me another chance to say a huge thank you to all the wonderful people who gave so much to make the whole project possible. A particular thank you to all of you in Drayton who supported me.'

### In this issue:

- p1..... What about better sports facilities for Drayton?
- p3..... Are you the cycling Good Samaritan?
- P5..... Looking for new Parish Councillors!
- P5..... How to change the old Village Green?
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- P8..... We have birds but where are the flowers and butterflies?

**WARNING**  
**ROGUE SOLAR TRADERS**

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## CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **September Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 23 August 2002** from **Helen Brassington, 1 Cheers Farm, (534045)** who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Tony Holmes, 53 Whitehorns Way (531180)**. Contributions should be emailed to the issue editor or placed in the Chronicle letter box, which is outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

**no later than 5.15 pm on Monday, 12 August 2002.**

After this deadline, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and only then if emailed or delivered directly to the Editor by the following Wednesday.

### THE FOLLOWING THREE MONTHS

Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs needed by Monday:	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:
October	16 September 2002	27 September 2002
November	14 October 2002	25 October 2002
December	18 November 2002	29 November 2002

### NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Be sure to include your name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number.

A contribution can be made in one of several ways:

1. By **email** to the relevant editor. These contributions should be in plain text or attached as a rich-text or Microsoft Word document; we do not have all word processing packages! Please use a subject or filename which is unique to you; 'Chronicle September' is not very helpful. The editors email addresses are:

Tony Holmes [tony-holmes@ntlworld.com](mailto:tony-holmes@ntlworld.com)  
 Peter Jackson [jacksonfamily@clematis39.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:jacksonfamily@clematis39.fsnet.co.uk)  
 Geoffrey Long [geoff.long@talk21.com](mailto:geoff.long@talk21.com)  
 Derek Pooley [derek\\_pooley@talk21.com](mailto:derek_pooley@talk21.com)

2. On a **3½" disk**, in PC format, preferably as a Microsoft Word file. *Please include your address* if you want the disk returned to you.

3. As a **good, black typescript, without underlining** on white A4 paper or smaller. Our optical character recognition software can read typescripts but only imperfectly so careful editing is needed. Even so, this is still much easier than re-typing.

4. Any **hand-written items** are dictated directly to the computer or typed up by a willing team of typists. **Please write the names of people and places in capital letters.** This does save a lot of mistakes.

The Editor clears the box at Vickery's from time to time during the previous week. It can therefore be a great help if items are left in the box a few days before the closing date. Many contributors are indeed doing just that and it really does help. Thank you.

### ADVERTISING RATES

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**Half-size** adverts are charged at **half** the above rates, **double-size** adverts at **twice** the above rates.

All requests **must** be accompanied by a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle'

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store on Drayton Green, in shopping hours.

Phone **Jane Pimm**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, on 531597 to discuss requirements.

## CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

### RESULTS OF THE JULY LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	2355	Mr Cassingham, 143 Drayton Rd, Sutton Courtenay	Claire Soper
£20	2352	Mr Cassingham, 143 Drayton Rd, Sutton Courtenay	Claire Soper
£15	0310	Mrs Jones, 22 Sutton Wick Lane	Beryl Dawson
£10	0923	Mrs Andrews, 49 High Street	Margaret Long
£10	2001	L Durkin, 25 Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	1556	J Simmonds, 18 Galley Fields, Abingdon	Sarah Church
£10	0108	Mrs Booth, 87 Abingdon Road	Carol Arnold
£10	0832	H Brassington, 1 Cheers Farm	Margaret Long
£10	2424	D Tettart, 9 Newman Lane	Jean Oliver
£10	1320	S Pitson, 4 Eastway	Teresa Burnage

The winning tickets were drawn by members of the Pre-school Play Group from the 2088 tickets sold

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## YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

When we moved into Hilliat Fields three years ago we never thought we would be moving on so soon. During our time here we have come to know Drayton as a very friendly village with a lot to offer a young family such as ourselves. Our children have been very happy at Drayton Primary School and playgroup and we are very grateful for the good friends we have made.

*Alison, Ken, Hana, Soren and Sasha Anderson*

Dear Editor

HELP!

I am trying to locate a man from Drayton who helped me following a bicycle accident I had on my way to work at about 6.30 a.m. on Thursday 23 May. The accident occurred at the Caldicot Road roundabout in Abingdon (the third roundabout on the way into Abingdon from Drayton) due to a flat tyre which I got from hitting a low road gully at speed between Drayton and Abingdon. The man who helped me was also on a bicycle on his way to work in Abingdon. He picked me up off the road and lent me his mobile phone to call for help. I would like to thank the person that helped me - if you are the person concerned or you know the person I am referring to, I would be very grateful if you would call me on 01235 862542.

Many thanks.

*Conrad Atkinson*

Dear Editor

I would like to thank all in Whitehorns Way who gave to the Red Cross collection in May. A total of £58-35p was collected.

*Daphne Barrand*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

A warm welcome to Dale and Vanessa who have moved into Whitehorns Way from Didcot and to Trish and Ramesh Gurdev, Arjan and Thalia who have also moved into Whitehorns Way, but from Oxford.

Congratulations to Krystyna and Steve Clayton of Henley's Lane on the birth of a baby boy, Samuel David on 30th April. A brother for David and Leanne.

Congratulations to Sally and Tony Field on the birth of their baby daughter Jessica Amy on 2nd July.

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<b>Licensed Lay Minister</b>	Dr Peter Barton.....523702
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Mrs Terry Fleming.....534124 Mr Peter Cline..... 530519
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	Mr Adrian Thompson.....01865 439669

## REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship - Traditional)
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW), except 2nd Sunday when there is a non-Eucharistic Family Service
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer (CW)
Mon - Fri	8.15 am	Morning Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel
Wed	10.30 am	Parents' & Toddlers Service in Church Room*
	6.00 pm	Evening Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel
Thurs	9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Sunday Pebbles	Church Room*
	5.00 pm	HIPPA (twice monthly)	Church Room*
Monday	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Bell Tower
Friday	7.00 pm	Choir Practice	Church Room*

## CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

\* Please note that these regular activities are suspended during August

## PARISH REGISTER

### Baptisms

23rd June	Zak Francis Steve Roberts Amy Joanne Roberts Alexander James Picchue Coe Bott
14th July	Eleanor Jane Florence Butler

### Funeral

1st July Cicely Evelyn Malin

### At the Crematorium

28th June George Mott



## Letter from The Revd. Dorothy Derrick

Dear Friends,

On Monday I did something that I haven't done for years - I spent the day on the beach (accompanied by two of my grandchildren!). I am not sure who had the most fun, making sand castles, digging drainage ditches, and running in and out of the sea.

Some of the time I spent sitting on the rug, taking in the view. It was a beautiful summer day; not a cloud in the sky. The visibility was amazing all around. Beyond the activity of the beach the marker buoys for the crab pots were bobbing, further out the odd container ship on its way to Felixstowe could be glimpsed and on the distant horizon the gas rigs off the east coast loomed into view.

I tried to imagine what that view would be like on a very different day when the clouds would obscure the sun, the rain might cascade down and obliterate the sights or the mist would enshroud everything. Of course everything would still be there but not in vision.

It reminded me that life can be like that. Sometimes we can see the way ahead quite clearly, where we are now, where we are going and where we hope to go. Sometimes we seem to be engulfed in the cloud; we have no clear vision and we cannot see the way ahead. Our vision is severely limited.

Its like that on our spiritual journey as we seek to find God. Sometimes we have clear vision, but sometimes we lose sight of the one we seek to follow and we get that sinking feeling. St. Peter had that experience when he jumped out of the boat to walk to Jesus. When he set off, he had his eyes on Jesus and all went well, but when he took his eyes off Jesus and thought about himself, he began to sink. That story has good sound advice for all who seek to follow Jesus. Keep looking towards him - sometimes we shall see him clearly, but even when he is obscured from our sight we must remember that he is still there (just like my view at the seaside) and we must keep going in his direction. It does not mean that he has gone, just because we cannot see him.

There is a 14th Century mystic, whose writings are called "The Cloud of Unknowing". It seems to have been written for all those who are seeking God and seeking to deepen their spirituality. It's not an easy book, but it does explore the difficulties of entering the cloud of unknowing that surrounds the living God. A God whom many are seeking whether they belong to a Church or otherwise. Remember we are seeking a God who wants to be found. It's like playing hide and seek with a very young child who shows themselves because their joy is in being found. So it is with God.

May I wish you all safe and refreshing holidays.

Yours prayerfully

*Dorothy*

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## CHURCH FETE

## Val Cross

It was lovely to see so many people at the fete and we were blessed yet again with a beautiful sunny afternoon. We made £1828-41; fantastic! This makes all the hard work worthwhile.

A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day, and to Dorothy and John for the use of their garden and to the Caudwell Day Centre.

Thank you also to Vickery's, Geoff and Marion Dix, Innogy, Andrew Matthews, Sabina the hairdresser, Sainsbury and Waitrose for their donations.



**ST PETER'S CHURCH HOME-VISITING GROUP**  
will visit anyone who is, or has been, ill or is recently home from hospital, or unable to get out because of a disability, or is in any other circumstances where support would be welcomed. Please contact Sally Dixon (531547), Jean Hager (531558), Neen Priestnall (531330) or Jackie Walker (522361)

## BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastoral Co-ordinator: Mr Roy Brown.....Tel. 531296

Home Visitor Mrs Norma Russell.....Tel. 531655

### REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

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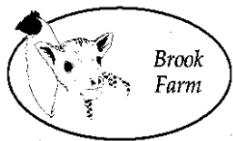
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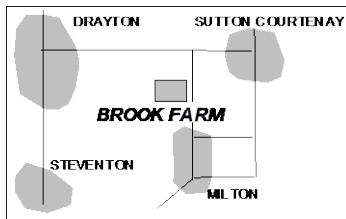
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## NOTICE BOARD

### COUNCIL VACANCIES

**Maria Wysocki-Jones**

The Parish Council currently has vacancies for three Councillors. If you are interested in finding out more details please contact either the Chairman, Mr Paul Knight on 01235 531678, or the Parish Clerk, Mrs Maria Wysocki-Jones on 01235 225909 or mwjfordpc@aol.com

### SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON

**Andrew Bax**

Where? On the Millennium Green. When? At 6.00 pm on Sunday 4 August. Why? To give everyone in Drayton – kids, mums, dads, grannies, granddads, dogs, cats ...a highly entertaining show of family fun from the Oxfordshire Touring Theatre Company.

It is absolutely free, but there will be a collection for the Millennium Green maintenance fund, so please bring a little money if you can. Please also remember to bring something to sit on.

### VILLAGE GREEN

**Douglas Smith**

For the development at Manor Farm to proceed, the access down Gravel Lane and across the Green must be altered. The proposed access plan was objected to by sufficient numbers for the Secretary of State to instruct the developers to hold a public meeting to resolve the objections. The developers failed to do so and the most likely outcome would be an enquiry.

Some members of the community decided that a further meeting should be called to determine the way forward. This was held in the Village Hall on 31 May and was chaired by Sarah Haywood. At this meeting Richard Wade, past Chairman of the Parish Council, gave a summary of the background and the view of the Council at that time. This was most welcome. The Parish Council's position appears somewhat equivocal, in that having agreed an overall arrangement with the developers, the devil is in the detail and the consequence has been an unsatisfactory plan which has safety implications to answer and pleases nobody. Any enquiry will deal solely with the issues of safety and practicality consequent upon implementation of the Stopping Up Order plan. The main proposal is to take appropriate advice so that whatever form the enquiry takes, a reasoned and professional presentation of the concerns can be made. A fair summary of the meeting would be that a bad plan should be contested irrespective.

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### FOUND



on the Millennium Green in June, a pair of Armani spectacles. Call 531 688.

## ALL AROUND

### BOWLS CLUB

### Roll up

On June 23rd we entertained a team from Syresham, Northants to a friendly Bowls Match. They are a very small club with only 16 members so it was a novel day out for them. The result was a draw and the day was enjoyed by all who took part.

On July 6th the annual Ladies v Gents match took place with the Ladies coming a creditable 'second' once again. Next Year Ladies, Next Year!

On August 3rd at 2.00pm we are having a fund raising 'Bazaar' in the Caudwell Day Centre. There will be many varied stalls and all are welcome.

### FOOTBALL CLUB

### Alan Alston

The Football Club held its annual awards event at the Red Lion at the start of June. The following awards were made –

- 1st Team Player of the Year: Neil Allen,
- Reserve Team Player of the Year: Graham Dallaway,
- 1st Team Young Player: Aaron Burgess,
- Reserve Team Young Player: Ian Oram,
- Leading Goal Scorer: Ian Oram,
- Clubman: Steve Lester.

In addition presentations were made to the two team managers Paul Evans and Brian Hibbins and their wives. The football team would like to thank Glen and Janet Woolley for their help in putting on the event and throughout the season. We would also like to thank local band "Yield" for their inspired performance.

Next Season is fast approaching. We are currently doing some work at the club to improve some of the facilities and to tidy up the interior. Training for next season has already started on Tuesday nights, all are welcome. In particular we hope that the younger lads in the village will feel inspired by Ian Oram's success and become involved. Next season starts on Saturday 31st August with both Paul and Brian remaining in their roles as team managers.

This season the club is introducing a boys team. They will be an under-14 team and will play on Sundays. Les Wright will be managing this team. We are excited by this addition to the club and hope to see as many of you as possible either involved or supporting this team. ⇨

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⇨ Finally, we invite anyone in the village interested in being involved in the football club in any capacity to join us. Either come along on a training night or contact me on 01235 531425.

### TABLE TENNIS CLUB

### John Gould

We are now in the closed season but are starting to look forward to the start of the new campaign in September. Club Practice will recommence on Monday 3rd September at 8.00 pm. As the first League matches will start the following week there should be plenty of members at the first session.

The AGM in June was a quiet affair with several people away at the time. No contentious matters arose and we were able to elect Officers for the forthcoming year. The Treasurer's report indicates we are managing the Club funds well at long last!

Our Pre-season Meeting will be at the Red Lion on Tuesday 6th August starting at 7.30 pm. We will select the Teams for the League at this meeting so everyone should try to attend. Any new players reading these jottings and who would like to play can come along to the meeting or ring 531328 for information.

We always welcome new players. From experienced to novices, or those who used to play and would like to start again. Whether playing in the League or just social ping-pong interests you, there will be a welcome at Drayton. Please ring 531328 for details. Our Junior Club will start a few weeks into the season - watch this space for more on this.


### W.I.

### Gwen Price

What a lovely treat we had at our July meeting when we learnt some of the history of Wantage on a walking tour given by Mr Roger Humphries. Wantage was a very busy sheep town and much of its history and its buildings were based on this trade. As we all know, King Alfred was also a very important historical figure. The tour was followed by a lovely meal, barbecue-style, which was cooked by Dr. Dick Squires in his and his wife's large attractive garden. The trip to Windsor was very successful. Thanks go to Val Cross for arranging the visit.

Don't forget to think about your entries for the Cook, Sew and Grow in September. It is open to everyone and the schedules are in the local shops. Our next meeting is a Hands-on Craft evening. New members are always welcome; just come and join us at 7.30 on the second Thursday at the village hall.

More All Around Opposite ⇨



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## MORE ALL AROUND

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

We need poppy sellers for the local area. Please help this worthy cause and contact the area organiser on 527602.

There will be no committee meeting in August.

### TODDLER GROUP Julie Woods

A warm welcome this month to our new members Jessie, Evie, Jacob & their mums. We hope you will enjoy your time with us at Drayton Toddlers.

On the 19th June a sponsored walk was held at Beale Park in aid of Banardo's. Ten members of our toddler group took part & we raised an amazing £160. After the walk all the children were awarded a medal & a free train ride. We took picnic lunches & were able to use all Beale Parks amenities for the afternoon. It was so nice to have such great time while also raising money for such a good cause. Thank you to all who took part in the walk and all of you who sponsored us.

Due to the drop in attendance numbers the Thursday toddler session will be relocating to peoples gardens within the village from 18th July until the end of August. The sessions will run from 10am until 12pm, weather permitting. Please ring Maria's answer phone on 533750 to find out where & when it's on and there will be a nominal charge of 50p to cover tea & coffee etc. If you would like to volunteer your garden please let Maria know. The Tuesday sessions will continue at the Village Hall as usual.

A date for your diary this month is the 8th August for the Teddy Bears Picnic, which will be held at Beale Park. We will be meeting about 12 noon for a picnic lunch & afterwards we will be having songs & games as well as using all the parks facilities (sand pits, paddling pools train rides etc). For more information see the notice board at toddlers or phone Maria (533750).

Looking forward to autumn, the annual fun day will be on the 17th September 2pm until 4.30 pm. A photographer has been booked and there will be a bouncy castle, craft stalls and raffle so please don't miss it!

Finally, thank you to Jo Selby who has kindly volunteered to take on the role of joint chairman with Maria (as I am standing down ready for the birth of my baby in September). I wish you all continued success and intend to see you all throughout the summer.

### PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP Ruth Sharrock

Well, this is my first article since taking on the role of Secretary for the Pre-School. Everyone has been very supportive and I have found it quite an eye-opener seeing all the work that takes place in running a pre-school.

At the time of writing the summer term is coming to an end and we are looking forward to:

The Foresters big toddle for Barnardos on 18th July.

Painting the portacabin on 3rd August.

Pre-school summer outing to Roves Farm near Swindon.

Over the past few months we have been collecting Walkers crisp packets and managed to get approximately 7,000 tokens! As a result Christine and Oz have been able to order a large number of books for the pre-school. Thanks to everyone who took the time to collect the tokens.

As the term ends we would like to say good luck and good-bye to Christopher Broomfield, Seth Cook, Connie Hedditch, George Hopkins, Helen Hudson, Maia Jordan & Sean Martyr, who will be starting school in September. Good luck to all of you. Also, good-bye to Soren Anderson and Sarah Chitson who are moving to pastures new. It has been a pleasure having you at pre-school and we will miss you!

Remember that the autumn term begins on Monday 9th September.



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### SCHOOL REPORT Clare Ventom

As I am writing this, it is the last week of the summer term and all the children at Drayton School are busy preparing for their annual Sports Day. No doubt they are also very much looking forward to their long summer break.

Earlier in the term, the Middle Unit undertook the task of clearing out the pond which is in the 'wild area' of the playground. They managed to clear out several bucket loads of weeds which has made it a much nicer environment for all the wildlife that inhabits the pond.

At the final assembly on Friday afternoon the school will say goodbye to all the year 6 children who are moving on to their new schools and wishing them all the best.

There will be no school report next month while the children are still on holiday but look out for the all the latest news and information about new fund raising events in the October edition.

### DRAYTON WIVES Daphne Barrand

Bugs are not my favourite things, so it was with some trepidation that I approached last month's talk. Dr. George McGavin, the Curator of the Natural History Museum in Oxford, not only made it informative, but very amusing. He started with slides of the building which is worth a visit in its own right. Then with a slide of the oldest pinned butterfly in the world, 1702. He had us laughing aloud at some of the mating antics of some insects and what to do if attacked by a swarm of wasps. He ended the evening by stir-frying some crickets with veg. (I hasten to add these were not alive nor did they look like insects). Many brave members tried them and said they were OK. It was an evening we will long remember.

Dates for your Diary in August: -

Mon 5th	10.30	COFFEE	C Willis Dixon	48 Henley's Lane
Mon 19th	7.15	WHIST	Shirley Thomas	Caudwell D.C.
Tue 27th	12.15	LUNCH*	Four Pillars Hotel, Sandford	

\*Your partners are welcome to come. Transport to be arranged. Please let a committee member know a) if you are coming and b) if you have a spare seat in your car.

and on

Tue 24th September.

A Ghost Walk in Marcham Village.

Optional visit to the Black Horse at Gozzards Ford, afterwards



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### LEARNING ABOUT COMPUTING Norman Foord

At the Summer Conference on Rural Learners' Projects held at Stanton Harcourt on June 26th, Drayton was congratulated for its positive participation in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development. Interest shown by more than 40 residents in the opportunities offered by Abingdon and Witney College, 4 IT taster sessions and a successful 10-week beginners' course in computing run at the Village Hall all show the value and the need for more development.

Courses being arranged for September are given below. All take place in the village. If you wish to reserve a place, please inform Gillian von Hoven on 01235 531236 as soon as possible.

**Tuesday 10th September IT Taster (Free) 2.00 – 5.00 pm**

This is a relaxed and informal session providing an opportunity to find out how computers can help you and how you can acquire the skills.

**Tues 10 Sept Second IT Taster (Free) 6.30 – 9.30 pm**

**Wed 11 Sept Introduction to Computers (£56) 7.30 – 9.30 pm**

This course runs for 10 weeks excluding half term and is an introduction to using a computer and assumes no prior knowledge of computing. It identifies the main parts of a computer and makes practical use of packages such as the word processor.

**Tues 17 Sept Introduction to Computers (£56) 2.00 – 4.00 pm**

Also for 10 weeks excluding half term

**Tues 17 Sept Applications Skills (£56) 7.00 – 9.00 pm**

This course covers email, the internet and word processing, running for 10 weeks excluding half term. It looks at the background and present day structure of the Internet. Skills are developed in using search engines, surfing the web and sending and receiving e-mails. More advanced skills in word processing are developed.

### RECORDING WILD LIFE John Killick

Although I was almost swamped with records of birds seen in Drayton parish, I have had nowhere near as many records of wild flowers and butterflies; these, given good weather to bring them out, would still be welcome.

I'd be grateful for any news, with your name, address and phone number, to be sent or phoned to John Killick 17b Park Crescent, Abingdon OX14 1DF (522136), or put in the Chronicle box if you don't mind delayed acknowledgment.

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Paul Knight chaired the Meeting of 1st July; no members of the public came.

### Model Code of Conduct

The Council was disappointed that two Councillors had declined to sign the Code of Conduct. This means that the Council now has three vacancies. Separate advertisements would be placed on Village notice boards and in the Drayton Chronicle. Anybody interested in finding out more details can contact the Chairman, Mr Paul Knight or the Clerk, Mrs Wysocki-Jones.

### Oday Hill Landfill Site

Mrs Mackenzie (County Councillor) reported numerous complaints made about the Landfill Site with particular concerns about the speed of lorries, safety and environmental concerns regarding the smell, flies and seagulls. The Council will invite Mr Duncalfé, Minerals Officer at OCC, to the next meeting of the Parish Council with the consideration of establishing a liaison committee to help resolve some of the issues.

### Planning

Four planning applications had been received and passed by the Parish Council. A further four applications previously agreed by the Parish Council were permitted by the Vale.

### Village Maintenance

Mr Thomas, Village Handyman has now completed all restorative work on the seating and benches in the Village. The Village Caretaker continues to inspect the playgrounds regularly and the annual Rospa inspection is due to take place in the next month.

### Pelican Crossing

Installation should be completed and the crossing operational by the end of June.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 5th August at 7.45pm at the Caudwell Day Centre.

Maria Wysocki-Jones



Sunday 4 August at 6.00pm

On the Drayton Millennium Green

Admission free but please bring something to sit on and, if you can, a contribution to the Millennium Green Maintenance Fund



## DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

### Grant Applications

Just an update on Grants. The local region has now been given the authority to determine the majority of grants that arise within its area. The budget for the SE Area of the Vale for this year is £11,500. Of that £1,750 has been awarded and a further application – for £1,000 is to be heard this month. Not one originates from Drayton. I thought it might be an ideal opportunity to remind you of the general outlines of Grant applications.

The Council makes grants to organisations, clubs and societies, wholly or partly based in the Vale, which are able to demonstrate that they give, or are planning to give, substantial benefit to Vale residents.

They must show evidence of their own fund raising efforts, have the financial support of their Parish Council and (ought – my word) to have tried all possible sources of funding, such as local and national charities and the various National Lottery Distributing Bodies (the Vale can help with advice on this).

The Council's resources are limited and cannot meet every need. Priority will be given to increasing the availability and quality of community buildings, to improving and increasing sport and recreational facilities across the Vale and supporting and improving arts projects of all kinds, particularly those where there is a breadth of community involvement.

To be eligible, organisations should be properly constituted and non-profit making, should have proper management arrangements, regular meetings and certified accounts and be open to all sections of the community (although the Council recognises that some organisations work with specific sectors of the community exclusively, i.e., young people, the elderly or those with disabilities).

The organisation will then need to complete the approved application form, supplying copies of their most recent set of accounts and balance sheet, plus any additional information that may be requested, including membership fees and charges.

It may also help if I mention those activities that have been refused in the past. As a guideline, this can be because they have already taken place, or because they promote a Party Political or religious viewpoint, or they have received or are receiving funding from other sources within the Council, or are the responsibility of another statutory body or are organised by National Bodies/Organisations or because they involve Vocational Training

In addition, individuals wishing to improve their performance in sporting or cultural activities are excluded unless the applicant, who has the support of his or her club or organisation, can provide evidence of genuine need.

If you need any help I will be pleased to advise where I can, but would mention that the Vale Council makes the final decision. ⇨

### MICHAEL BELL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS

**Michael Bell**

MLIA (dip)  
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### MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If by any chance your Area Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle one month you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop in the week after normal delivery time. Lawrence has very kindly agreed to keep a small stock for us each month.

*Margaret* welcomes you to  
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### HOME VISITS

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### APPOINTMENTS

**Mrs Hazel MOODEY, 48 Hanney Road,  
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### ⇨ Village Halls

I see £60,000 is being spent by the Vale on further repairs to the Preston Road Community Centre in South Abingdon. You will perhaps recall the Hall needed major and costly renovations about two years ago. It is the policy of the Vale to support town and village communities, particularly the Centres or Halls that are a major focal point of local life. I do have concerns where such buildings are not being properly maintained and the Vale has to foot the bill for renovations. I will be taking this issue up with the Leader of the Council to see how this can be prevented in future. In the meantime I would like to congratulate Mr. Peter Fleming, chairman of the Village Hall Committee and his active band of committee members for ensuring our local village Hall is well maintained. (It also and rightly caters for disabled needs.) I think credit also needs goes to past members who helped instill this sense of local duty and responsibility from the start.

### Council Tax Collection

Congratulations go out to the Vale Collection team. They are now the BEST in the country in collecting Council taxes. They have been in the top five for a few years, but it is now good to see them as Number One. Prompt collection of taxes minimises the possibility of bad debts and allows more money to earn interest at the bank, as you realise. It all helps in trying to keep council tax rises to a minimum.

**Please Note:** There will not be a surgery in August. The next Surgery will be held at 9.00 at the Village Hall on Saturday September 7th. I look forward to meeting any Drayton residents who wish to come along and discuss their concerns.

Regards,

*Grahame Ash (Your Vale District Councillor)*

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**DIARY FOR AUGUST**

All events are held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated  
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Thurs	1	8.00 pm	Sequence Dance (weekly) tel. 531701
		8.00 pm	Sutton Courtenay Angling Club
Sat	3		Wedding Reception
Sun	4	6.00 pm	'It was this big' <i>Millennium Green</i>
Mon	5	7.45 pm	Parish Council <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Tues	6	11.30 am	Blood Donor Clinic (until 8.30 pm)
<b>Mon</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Chronicle Lottery deadline</b> <i>Vickery's</i>
		<b>5.15pm</b>	<b>Chronicle copy deadline</b> <i>Vickery's box</i>
Sat	17		Private Party
Sun	25		Private Christening Party
Fri	30		Wedding Reception
Sat	31		Wedding Reception

*Note: Our District Councillor Grahame Ash will not have a surgery in August. The next is at 09.00 on Saturday 7th September*

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**REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS**

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

**MONDAYS**

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
1.30 pm	Afternoon Social	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
5.45 pm	Beavers (Boys / girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30pm	Youth Club (until 9.30pm)	
7.45 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>

**TUESDAYS**

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Tues in the month)	

**WEDNESDAYS**

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Parent and Toddler Service	<i>Church Room</i>
2.00 pm	Whist - now each week	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Drayton Computing Club: Absolute Beginners	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
8.00 pm	Senior Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

**THURSDAYS**

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green Car Pk</i>
2.00 pm	Darby & Joan Club	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
4.00 pm	Dancing Classes (3 to 6 years). Tel: 764433	
6.30 pm	8/12 Club (1st & 3rd Thursday in the month)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing	
8.00 pm	Wilt/Berks Canal Group (3rd Thursday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>

**FRIDAYS**

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (to 3.30) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.00pm	Choir Practice	<i>St Peter's</i>

**SUNDAYS**

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
11.30 am	Family Time	<i>Baptist Church</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	<i>Baptist Church</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St Peter's</i>

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