

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley

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August 2003

## TWINS MEET AGAIN

By far the best way to know people from another country is to spend time living with them and not in hotels! Twinning enables this to happen and the weekend 11- 14 July was a fine example of the entente cordiale that exists between this village and our twin town of Lesparre in Medoc in France. The main purpose of this visit was to entertain more young people than during previous twinning visits and the activities were planned with youngsters in mind.

This year it was the turn of Lesparre to visit Drayton and a party of 11 adults and 8 children left Lesparre very early on the Friday morning to fly from Bordeaux to Gatwick. For most visitors it was their first visit to Drayton and for some their first visit to the UK. As seems customary on these occasions, they brought the fine weather with them. Having arrived in London at 8 am they spent the day in town, visiting an impressive number of sights such as Buckingham Palace, the London Eye and Westminster Abbey. We met them at Victoria bus station in the late afternoon and had a trouble-free trip to Oxford by coach where they were met by their hosts and transported back to Drayton for an informal supper and an early bedtime, after a long, tiring day.

After a relaxed breakfast on the Saturday, we all assembled at Drayton School (thank you Mrs Higgs!) to prepare for a football match. This match, an 8-a-side match between Drayton school and the junior section of Lesparre FC, was one of the highlights of the visit. The boys and girls in each team were all aged 10 or 11 and friendships were made from the start. The match was played in great spirit and created much enthusiasm from both sides. Alan Alston and Steve Lester took on responsibilities for the Drayton team and we are grateful to them and to Neil Allen who refereed his first International! Julie Lester kindly provided team refreshments at half time - much appreciated on such a hot day. The Drayton Team won 3 goals to 1 but this was truly a fine example of the playing being far more important than the winning. All participants were presented with a medal to commemorate the occasion and Lesparre a plaque for the town hall.



The Signs of Twinning

After a magnificent buffet lunch organised by Victoria Griffiths everyone was impressed to see all the young people choose mixed teams for another game of football before enjoying St Peters Church Fete. After the adults had finished browsing and retired for a well-earned rest, the youngsters from Lesparre and Drayton were taken to Wiggy's World for a LaserQuest battle, which further promoted friendships between the two groups. On Saturday evening various hosts enjoyed providing dinner for the entire group.

On Sunday we left by coach to Warwick Castle on what was probably the finest day of the year. In fact it may be no coincidence that each time our friends arrive the whole country basks in Medoc-like weather? The day was an enormous success, perfect for children of all ages. Everyone enjoyed the stories of the wars between France and England, Knights in Armour, the reputation of the English Bowmen and the changing ownership of Aquitaine, of which Lesparre is a part! Then, it was home for a quick change before enjoying a splendid barbecue organised and cooked for us by Ann Simons and her staff at The Wheatsheaf; very many thanks Ann! The gardens were full of people having a fantastic evening and it was gratifying to see so many who

had played a part in the weekends success and to know that more people are keen to visit Lesparre as a group in 2004 (or perhaps before?). Without doubt we shall be challenged to a return match.

On Monday (Bastille Day in France) our visitors spent the day relaxing with their hosts or doing some last minute shopping in Oxford until the coach took them home at 4 pm. Without any doubt all those involved, directly or indirectly, enjoyed the fellowship of both communities and more fond memories and friendships have been forged between individuals and the committees during this weekend. As a group we hope that those who knew little of the benefits Town Twinning can bring would have learned what fun can be had.

Meilleurs souhaits

Michael Bell

The lady under the road sign at the entrance to the village is Mme Anne-Marie Aspa, Chairperson of the Drayton/Lesparre Twinning Committee. Michael and Emily Bell are in Drayton Square in Lesparre. More photographs of the recent weekend on page 7.

### Also in this issue:

- p5 A Bridge for Young People
- p6 Cricket, lovely cricket

- p3 The Chronicle needs new helpers
- p5 Giving the delights of reading
- p7 International Football

- p4 taking arms against a CoE of troubles
- p6 Stop your children vandalising our Hall!
- p10 Speed Cushions

Drayton is a sorry sight,  
It suffers from the horrid blight  
Of litter scattered here to there  
By those of us who do not care.

In the ditches and the hedges,  
In the pond and round its edges,  
On the Green and in the gutter,  
Lanes and pathways full of clutter.

Cardboard packets, plastic bags,  
Metal cans, discarded rags,  
Bottles, wrappers, broken glass  
In woodland, stream and wayside grass.

## RUBBISH by Dogerelle



Of course it's really only fair  
To say that most of us **do** care;  
It's just a thoughtless, careless few  
Who don't consider what they do.

Drayton's an attractive place  
With fields and ponds and open space;  
Some city dwellers much would give  
For such a pleasant place to live.

So, litter louts obey the rule  
That all us have learned at school:  
Don't spoil the village, find a bin  
And drop your junk and rubbish in!

## CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **September Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 29 August 2003** from **Helen Brassington, 1 Cheers Farm, (534045)** who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Geoffrey Long, Aeolian House, Chiers Drive (531321)**. 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, 18 August 2003.**

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	15 September 2003	26 September 2003
November	20 October 2003	31 October 2003
December	17 November 2003	28 November 2003

### 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 May' is not very helpful. The editors email addresses are:

Tony Holmes                      tony-holmes@ntlworld.com  
 Geoffrey Long                      geoff.long@talk21.com  
 Derek Pooley                      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, fairly large, 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

Advertiser Category:	For a 1/10th page Block Advert				Small Advert
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	1	3	6	12	per word
Drayton Resident	£4.00	£10.50	£21.50	£40.00	<b>3p</b>
Non-Drayton Resident	£5.00	£13.50	£27.00	£50.00	<b>4p</b>

**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	2464	R Williams, 11 Newman Lane	Jean Oliver
£20	0033	I Morris, 59 Abingdon Road	Jane Henderson
£15	1117	J Woolley, The Red Lion	Sheila Cook
£10	0484	J Grey, 49 Sutton Wick Lane	Jane Grey
£10	0939	H McAlister, 3 High Street	Mary Alexander
£10	2415	Mr Taylor, 129 Drayton Rd, S.C.	Claire Soper
£10	0071	T Fleming, Suuton Wick Lane	Julie Brown
£10	0083	Mrs Callow, 18 Lovelace Close	Julie Brown
£10	0793	M Smith, 37 High Street	Margaret Long
£10	1544	P Athawes, 220 Steventon Road	Sarah Church

The winning tickets were drawn by parents at the Pre-School from the 2216 tickets sold



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## YOUR LETTERS

Dear Sir,

My heartfelt thanks to everyone in the village who made a donation to the Parliamentary Classic Car Run to the Houses of Parliament on Saturday 5th July. 75 participants raised a total of £37,726 to the DSA. The HRG ran without a hitch, contributing in excess of £900.

Yours sincerely

*Andrew Beacroft*

Dear Editor

I would like to say a very big thank you to all those who supported me when I abseiled 100 feet down the Maternity Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital on Sunday 13th May. Due to your generous support I was able to give £360.00 to Marie Curie Cancer Care in our area.

Once again, thank you.

*Helen Sainsbury*

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank everyone who came to our garden party in aid of 'Riding for the Disabled Association - Wantage Group'. We were fortunate with the weather and had a lovely day. Also, thanks to those who were unable to attend but kindly sent donations. We raised £750 which will be of great help towards keeping the group running. The group is entirely voluntary and always in need of helpers, if anyone is interested with an hour or two spare on Tuesday mornings please contact Pauline for more details.

Yours faithfully

*Pauline and Alex Taylor*

**Another, special letter about Drayton Hall is on page 6**

## NEWS OF THE CHRONICLE

**First, the good news.....**

We had two volunteers for the job of delivering the *Chronicle* to the printers each month. Isla Smith, of the Green, rang offering to be the courier, followed the next night by Dave Pimm – husband of our advertising manager, Jane – who will act as reserve to cover holidays and the like. Thank you both for volunteering so promptly.

There was also an offer to take over the Binnings Close/Haywards Road Agency from Pat Nimmo, but unfortunately the volunteer is not able to start straight away. Since Pat is now focussed more and more on moving from Drayton she cannot make any more deliveries after this month. Can anyone help by 'temping' as an Area Agent until a more permanent arrangement can be made?

Sadly, there has still been no offer to replace Brenda Whiting, Area Agent for Lesparre Close. This will be Brenda's last month for delivering the *Chronicles*, so unless we have a volunteer within the next few weeks there will be no more deliveries in that area.

**Many thanks**

Brian Lewis, who has been Area Agent for part of Hilliat Fields for longer than he or I can remember, has decided that for him, too, it is time to retire.. Many thanks, Brian, for all the time and effort you have put in over the many years – no doubt with help from Peggy – as the Area Agent. So here again we need a replacement to keep the *Chronicle* deliveries and lottery ticket sales going in that area.

As mentioned last month our couriers for delivering the *Chronicle* to the printers, Derek and Rosemary Chapman are now retiring from their respective jobs and will no longer making the daily trip into Oxford. With Andrew making three members of the family working in Oxford it was only on the rarest of occasions that one or other of them was not going into Oxford on the critical Monday. Many, many thanks for all the trips you have each made in all weathers down to our printers in George Street. ⇨

**Letters to the Editor** are accepted on the understanding that the Editor may shorten, clarify or reject them. Each letter must bear a legible name and address (and telephone number if possible) so that the correspondent may be contacted if necessary. The correspondent's name will be published unless the Editor is specifically requested in writing not to do so.

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⇨ **Plenty of vacancies**

Adding these to the existing vacancies we need volunteers to keep the *Chronicle* rolling in six of our Areas:

- Haywards Road/part of Binnings Close – temporary help for the next few months
- Lesparre Close
- Part of Hilliat Fields
- Manor Close – which has been without an agent for some time now
- Fisher Close – permanent Agent needed to replace the present temporary arrangement.

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who could give a little time, averaging a few hours each month, either to fill one of these vacancies or simply to act as a reserve helper when required. Ask anyone involved with the *Chronicle* and they will tell you what a good way it is to get to know your neighbours in the village, as well as to make a useful contribution to our community. Just give me a call on (01235) 531321 to learn more without commitment or obligation.

**And do remember....**

If for any reason you miss out on any issue you can always collect a copy and buy lottery tickets from Vickery's hardware store on The Green. Always helpful to the *Chronicle*, Lawrence and Debbie keep a supply of *Chronicles* and tickets to be had for the asking.

*Geoffrey Long, Chronicle Co-ordinator*

# ST PETER'S CHURCH

**Priest in Charge** Revd Dorothy M Derrick .....531374  
The Vicarage, 8 Gravel Lane, Drayton

**Licensed Lay Minister** Dr Peter Barton.....523702

**Churchwardens** Mrs Terry Fleming.....534124  
Mr Peter Cline.....530519

**Organist & Choirmaster** Mr Adrian Thompson

## 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 & Rocks Church Room\*

Monday 7.45 pm Bell Ringing Practice Bell Tower

Friday 7.00 pm Choir Practice Church Room\*

## CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

Tues 5th 3.00 pm First Tuesday Connections (to 4.30 pm)Church

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

## AND FOR SEPTEMBER

Tues 2nd 3.00 am First Tuesday Connections (to 4.30 pm)Church

Wed 10th 7.45 pm PCC Meeting Church Room

## PARISH REGISTER

### Baptisms

6th July Louis Stanley Kogel

13th July James Patrick Arthur Evans

### Marriage

28th June John England and Claire Canfield

### Funerals

18th June Doris Tyndal

19th June Victor Arthur Roe

4th July John Lymer

### Burial of Ashes

5th July John Lymer

## YOU STAY - WE PRAY

During August we will pray for all the people who live and work in these roads: 3-16 August; Steventon Road, Eastway, Eastway MHP 17-23 August; Church Lane, Henleys Lane, Caudwell Close, Gravel Lane 24 Aug-6 Sept; Abingdon Road, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Haywards Road.

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## Letter from The Revd. Dorothy Derrick

Dear Friends,

Firstly I would like to thank all of you who came to support the Church Fete at the Vicarage on July 12th. It was a splendid day, setting the scene for fun and enjoyment. I think more people than ever came and we even ran out of ice cream! The organising Committee were delighted with the excellent result of almost £2,000. Thank you all for your generosity.



For those of you who read my letter last month, I want to report that my time of Retreat at Burford Priory was a welcome time apart from all the trauma surrounding the appointment of a new Bishop of Reading to serve this area and also his withdrawal from that appointment.

As you will have read in the press, the Church of England is going through a difficult patch. The media, sadly, blows everything out of all proportion. I would like to assure you that for many of us the work of being a Christian in today's world goes on as usual. My personal belief in a God, who loves each and every person regardless of colour, creed or sexual orientation, is as strong as ever. I am personally deeply saddened by fellow Christians who wish to exclude people. I only have to look at Jesus to see a model of love reaching out to those who are excluded by others - the sinner, the disabled, the unlovely. I only have to consider his commandment to love one another. These are powerful motivations to live lives of love which break down barriers rather than build them up.




In November 1991, a Statement by the Bishops set out their views in "Issues of Human Sexuality". Since then views have polarised and no way forward has been found. There are strongly held views on both sides of the argument. It is my hope that the love and mercy of God will prevail; that the Church will experience a time of suffering; that out of that suffering will break forth new life transformed by God's Holy Spirit.

Meanwhile at St. Peter's we continue to show the love of God and welcome all into that community of love. Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals reach out into the Parish. The Care Team continues to serve those in need. The Prayer Hub hold many in their prayers. The Healing Team continue to offer the laying on of hands with prayer on the last Sunday in the month, or when ever necessary. The Worship Group continue to find new ways of for people to worship together and the Discipleship Group help us in our Christian living and learning.

If you want to know more we invite you to come and see. We are there Sunday by Sunday in your Parish Church ready to welcome you. I am there if you want me to come and see you or talk to you. I have even been seen playing cricket recently!

Yours prayerfully

Dorothy

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## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

We will be delighted to welcome anyone feeling in need of company, for whatever reason, to join us on the first Tuesday of the month for our regular get-together, which continues to flourish in St Peters Church Room. Please feel free to join at any time between 3 pm and 4:30 pm, when the tea and coffee pots are always at the ready. Our next two dates are 5th August and 2nd September and we hope to see you then. If you would like any further information or have need of transport please call me on 531 558.

# BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

## REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

- 11.30 am Family Service with Sunday School  
6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service frequently with guest speakers. Communion every second Sunday of the month.

### EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

The family service and Sunday school on the first Sunday of each month is taken by Mrs Janet Strong, who does various art work and carfts as well as Bible stories. Do come along; you will be most welcome.

During August, each Saturday afternoon from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm TEAS will be served at the Baptist Chapel on the Green, in aid of Church funds, weather permitting in the courtyard. There will be a sales table, bric-a-brac, also hot dogs, cakes and biscuits.

Come and join us every Saturday.

*Valerie Hale*



## THE ABINGDON BRIDGE

**Derek Pooley**

The Abingdon Young People's Drop-in Centres, usually called the Abingdon Bridge, is a local charity providing information, support and counselling for young people in the Abingdon area whose lives have many difficulties and who can easily fall into drugs and despair and crime. We are now in our 10th year. Our manager, Miriam Hadcocks, writes about what is going on at the moment:

'The time of year means that we are currently dealing with a lot of clients who have now *officially* left school. It can be hard for anyone to access employment or training, but with no qualifications, a dodgy educational history and only basic literacy and communication skills, it's more or less impossible. The idea of approaching large employment agencies when you have been let down by institutions in the past and don't understand the processes is daunting. Many young people are genuinely keen to make that transition into adult life and are more than ready. They often want to move away from a "mispent youth" and to seize this new opportunity, but past mistakes, failures and reputations make this impossible. It is great, though, to see the diligence that some put into job-hunting and to see some real positive developments and steps forward. It is amazing how much even a couple of days holding ladders on a building site can do for their self-esteem. They are earning, they have a place in society, a purpose and something to occupy their time. Many of them who have failed at school have only ever wanted the chance to get a job and get on with their lives, and it is good to be able to help them to do that.

One problem in making that transition is a criminal record and a bad reputation. A lot of the issues we have seen recently are legal ones. It is important always to remember that even those who have long and maybe violent criminal backgrounds can be victims – either of crimes, or of the system. If you are homeless, unemployed or uneducated, it is all but imposible to comply with bail conditions or to escape the situations that lead to your committing offences, and some are almost forced into such activities. One such young man talked to me at length of his desire to move away and set up a painting and decorating business, to get away from Abingdon and his reputation and start again. He is working hard to achieve that, but an injury led to unemployment, forced homelessness led to a breach of bail conditions and he is now facing imprisonment. We can do much to support him, taking him through the maze of court, legal representation, accessing benefits and housing, providing character statements and attending meetings and even appearing in court. Most important though is showing that we at least believe in him... and that we believe he *can* make it... Here's hoping he and others like him do.'

If you could help by giving some time as a volunteer, please contact our manager, Miriam Hadcocks, on 522375; if you could support us financially please call our treasurer, Derek Pooley, 11 Halls Close, Drayton on 559454.

## VOLUNTEER READING HELP

**Hilary Burr**

Volunteer Reading Help is a voluntary organisation which recruits, trains and supports volunteers who visit a local primary school twice a week and work for half an hour each with three children who have difficulties with their reading. Here, a Volunteer Reading Helper writes about her work:

'I have worked with a variety of children, all of them from seven to nine years old. Some just needed someone to give them confidence to bring out the reading they already had and help them see that it was more important to have a go than worry about being right; some really needed assistance with grasping the basics, and others could read relatively well but needed help with comprehension. There have been several who simply needed a quiet place, a non-threatening oasis, to talk, to have fun, and yes, to read a bit with a friendly adult who wasn't their teacher or parent, because home life was complicated and school life a struggle.

Most of the children I've worked with have improved. Their reading has come on in leaps and bounds; they can actually remember what they've read so that they can make an educated guess as to what might happen next. Just as importantly, although reading has remained a struggle for some, they have found the self-confidence and vocabulary skills to teach me a game or describe something in exhaustive detail. That hour a week can really pay dividends!

At the end of last half-term the mother of a child I'd worked with since September spoke to me. Her son had pointed me out as 'the lady who helps me read'. She told me how much her son enjoyed our sessions, that now he was reading at home, not just books, but cereal packets, taking great delight in deconstructing the longer complicated words. He didn't always get them right - but he had a go because he had the confidence to try. She told me that he'd never wanted to read at home and that she'd just left it alone because it caused too much upset even to broach the subject. This explained the absence of any parental input in his reading record. It wasn't due to a lack of interest or support, as had fleetingly crossed my mind, but a reflection of her son's difficulties and her inability to find a way in to help him. She was so pleased with her son's progress and thanked me for helping him.

I took away several things from this - affirmation that VRH does work, and a reminder not to judge parents too harshly without knowing the facts. I could see the trickle-down effect of helping a child to gain confidence to read - not only was he happier, his mother had one less thing to worry about. Most children just need a gentle push, (sometimes verging on a shove!), a bit of oomph if you like. to start them reading, to enable them to enjoy it and, with luck and encouragement, to ultimately leap into new worlds that expand their horizons and spark their imagination.'

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a Volunteer Reading Helper, please contact Hilary Burr at VRH, 36 Windmill Road, Oxford OX3 7BX; telephone 0845 4500329 and e-mail: vrh.oxfordshire@tiscali.co.uk. Training courses are held locally, and all expenses are paid.



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## DRAYTON HALL A letter from Ann Webb

Dear Drayton residents

I have just taken over as chairperson of the Drayton Hall Management Committee. I have been on this committee for 28 years, and I think that is the only reason I have risen to this position. I know I have a hard task in front of me. Looking at the past chairman I know I have a lot to live up to. I just hope I can live up to expectations.

It is nonetheless an honour as well as a huge responsibility to the Hall and the village as a whole. I would like to say to people who have recently moved to the village and remind those who have lived here for the life of the Hall, that the money that built it was raised by villagers. Some have now sadly left us, some are now older residents, but many still remember the money raising events of years ago. It was a huge project for a village of this size.

Over the last few years the Committee has tried to update the colour scheme from Magnolia to something a little more colourful and upgrade facilities to make them more usable and secure. All the while these changes are going on, the general maintenance of the building and the constant upgrade of fittings to keep pace with constantly changing regulations cost a great deal of time and money.

When the subject of Hall charges is put on the agenda, we know we will be in for a rough ride because everyone thinks they are a special case. In a perfect world this would be a wonderful thought, but we don't live in a perfect world! The hire fees and the bar takings are our income. The bills for services, decorating, insurance, cleaning and general maintenance is where it goes, but of late the greatest bill is repairs on the exterior of the building, mostly caused, sadly, by children.

Windows broken, lights smashed, paint picked off guttering and down-pipes ripped down, the flagpole broken, glass broken over the car park - the list seems endless. This damage is caused by children, some as young as eight years old. They have the notion that climbing onto the hall roof is fun. They don't see the danger involved nor the problems it causes us. Even when repairs are carried out they are destroyed again before the paint or putty is even dry. One day, you, as parents and these youngsters as future adults may want to book the Hall but if this level of destruction carries on, either the booking fees will be so great that it becomes unviable to run or people will not want to book the hall because of its state, the result is the same.

We know these are village children. Please try to impress upon your youngsters that nothing in this life is free. Someone pays for everything. In this case, the Hall users are the payers and indirectly that may well be you!

## YOUTH CRICKET MATCH

**Jo McKenzie**

On Sunday 29th June, I attended a cricket match at the football club, run by Drayton Youth Club. The match was between the teenagers of the village and their slightly older opponents. I had a great afternoon, with the oldies winning by one run. It was a wonderful display of good sportsmanship, teamwork and good behaviour by all involved. The man of the match was Alan Alston.



There was a barbecue and the football club gave use of their bar and toilets. Younger children, bored with cricket, enjoyed the bouncy castle! Karen, who runs the youth club, would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who helped or joined in, especially John Napper and Ray Hunt who umpired the game and John Derrick who kept score.



As everyone had such a good time, it was requested that a rematch be held on 24th August. If anyone would like to join in, just come along at 12 o'clock and put your name down, regardless of whether or not you have a child attending youth club.

*Margaret* welcomes you to  
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⇒ Please impress upon them that it is their Hall as well as all of ours and help us to look after this building; it is after all Drayton hall. It is an impressive building that we should be proud of. Please help us to look after it.

*Ann Webb*

## INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

**Michael Bell**



Audrey Panicaud, from Lesparre, proudly displays the medal she has just received for playing in her first football international, between Drayton and Lesparre. Arson Wenger! Would you like more French speakers at Highbury?

The football teams which played eight-a-side during the recent twinning weekend! Drayton players have the darker shirts and won 3 – 1. Perhaps Lesparre couldn't cope with the heat of the English summer!



## CHURCH FETE

**Val Cross, Terry Fleming, Sue Harris & Sally Dixon**

Once again we had a lovely sunny afternoon for our fete, and lots of people came willing to spend their money. We raised £1956.50. A lot of hard work goes into arranging a fete, but it makes everything worthwhile to see so many people having an enjoyable afternoon.

Our thanks go to Dorothy and John Derrick, for allowing us to use their garden, and to the Caudwell Day Centre. Thank you also to those businesses who gave raffle prizes: Geoff and Marion Dix, Vickery's, The Wheatsheaf, Sabina's Hairdressing, Andrew Chapman Fine Wines, Andrew Matthews and Wendy Madley, also to Dan Malin for supplying the transport to take and collect the tables. Last but by no means least, thank you to all our helpers and everyone else who made donations and of course to everyone who came along to make it such a successful afternoon.

## FAIR TRADE

**Val Cross**

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## YOUTH CENTRE CHARITY

**Graham Bird**

The Annual General Meeting of the Drayton Youth Centre Charity was held last month. The following officers were reappointed: Chair – Ann Webb; Treasurer – Andrew Thomas; Secretary – Graham Bird

At the same meeting the committee allocated grants to local youth organisations as follows :

- Drayton Toddler Group £100
- Pre School Playgroup £325
- FODSA £325
- Drayton Youth Players £100
- St Peters Youth Group £100
- St Peters Unlimited £100
- Drayton Brownies £200
- School Football team £150

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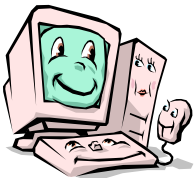
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## ALL AROUND

### PRE-SCHOOL

**Naomi Broomfield**

This will reach you after our planned Barnados sponsored toddle which will have taken place on the 17th July. I know it will have been an enjoyable time except for the sad farewells and good luck wished to these children; George Sharrock, Thomas Smith, Katie Hayward and Joseph Clinton who are leaving us at the end of this term.

A really BIG thank you to The Red Lion for holding a darts evening recently and raising £200 for us! Christine and Oz had great fun choosing the new toys and puzzles, which have now arrived. We have taken some photos of the children enjoying all the activities and will make sure all involved will get a chance to see their money in action! Also, all at pre-school would like to say thank you to the Youth Charity for their grant to help us prepare for our changes in opening hours as from September.

Due to increasing demand we have now added another session. Our sessions are, from September, as follows:

- Monday morning 9:00 to 11:30
- Monday afternoon 12:30 to 3:00
- Tuesday morning 9:00 to 11:30  
lunch club 11:30 to 12:30
- Tuesday afternoon 12:30 to 3:00
- Wednesday morning 9:00 to 11:30
- Thursday morning 9:00 to 11:30  
lunch club 11:30 to 12:30
- Thursday afternoon 12:30 to 3:00
- Friday morning 9:00 to 11:30

This means we can now offer all-day care on 2 days of the week. If this proves successful we are hoping to expand to other days as well. The cost per session is £3.70 and £2.40 for lunch club. This means for the children doing all day it will only cost £10 for 9:00 to 3:00 care. If you are interested in finding out more please Tel: 536094.

Unfortunately, as those who have been up to the school recently will know, we have suffered another broken window. The problem is that it is a specialised size, shape and type and it is proving difficult to find a replacement. If you know how, or who, broke it please contact ourselves on Tel 536094 or the police.

It is still not too late to put your name down to join us at Roves farm on 8th August. Last time, we had our own guide, tractor ride, ducklings and goats to feed and all had a fantastic day. If you would like to come along please phone me on 532248.

Hope you all have a great summer break and see you all on 8th September.

### TODDLER GROUP

**Natalie Aelbrecht**

It has been a while since you have heard from us but there was a lot going on in these last few months, so we wanted to wait for all the good news before we let you all in on it. ⇨

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⇨ First, congratulations to mums Emma and Alison with their new babies Millie and Jonathan. Welcome to our group and to this world.

On the 18th of June we had the Big Toddle for Barnardos. We were lucky with the weather, cloudy but warm and dry. The kids had a great time and they enjoyed watching all the animals along their walk. We had a picnic and were treated to a soft toy, chocolate and juice. Our little walkers raised a total of £374.50. Well done all of you!! We applied for a grant from the Drayton Youth Center Charity and they gave us £100.00. With that money we bought a play-den that we will use as a gate, so doors can be open during long hot summers, and as a play-den for our babies during freezing cold winters. Many thanks to the charity.

Our annual Teddy Bear Picnic will be held on the 6th of August and will take place at Blenheim. I will put a note on the notice board with all the details.

Have a great summer and see you all at Toddlers.

more All Around opposite ⇨

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## MORE ALL AROUND

### SCHOOL REPORT

**Clare Ventom**

There is a lot to report this month, including school trips and a new website. The Middle Unit went on a trip to visit the Medina Mosque in Oxford. They gave a report on their visit during a Friday Family Assembly. The children obviously found the visit very interesting and thought provoking. One thing they remembered in particular was that children, whose parents attend the mosque, have to go there for two hours after school each day. The Friday Family Assembly is an excellent opportunity for families of the pupils to find out what activities the children have been engaged in during the week. It is also good for the children to get used to presenting their work in front of an audience.

FODSA, who work very hard raising funds for the school, donated some money to buy new netball kit for the netball team. All the players looked very smart in their new kit at the netball tournament which was held at Drayton School in June.

A new Drayton School website is to be launched in September. All the children were asked to draw a picture of the school as part of a competition and the winning entry will be used on the website. All the pictures are on display in the school. The winning entry and all those highly commended can be found just inside the main entrance.

The Summer Fair was a great success. The weather was glorious and it was a very enjoyable afternoon. The fair opened with the traditional procession of the Summer King and Queen and their attendants. This was followed by Maypole dancing performed by children from years 5 and 6. In addition to all the stalls and the barbecue there was a gym display and a football tournament. The total amount of money raised was £1300. Thank you to everyone who took part and made this such a successful event.

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.

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

**Pearl Stanbridge**

It is regretted that David Stanbridge, through ill-health, has stood down from the post of Local Poppy Appeal Organiser and wishes to extend sincere thanks to supporters, sellers and helpers who have supported this worthy cause while he was in the post. ⇨



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⇨ I have much pleasure in reporting that the post is now held by Peter and Diana Hasting of Milton and trust you will all give them the support David received.

Don't forget our Barbecue on Friday 15th August – look forward to seeing you there. There is no Committee meeting this month.

### DRAYTON WIVES

**Georgie Logan**

At our meeting on 24th June Ann Webb took us back to another era with her talk entitled 'Auntie's Bits'. She told us about her aunt's life and brought along a selection of treasures which she had found in auntie's house, ranging from buttons, buckles, photographs, newspapers and old receipts etc. This lady did not believe in throwing anything away. What would she have made of our present throw away society? Thank you, Ann, for a very interesting talk.

Gillian von Hoven is wondering whether a visit to Princess Diana's old home at Althorp is a possibility. She has a few names but if there is anyone who would like to go on such a visit, please let Gillian know as soon as possible, tel 531236.

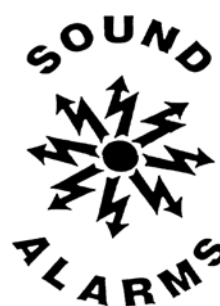
Dates for your diary in August: -

Mon 11th	10.30 COFFEE	Dixie & Shirley	48 Henleys Lane
Mon 18th	7.15 WHIST	Shirley Thomas	Caudwell D.C.
Tue 26th	6.30 MEETING	Jacobs Join, Jean Taylor,	High Street,

Please make a note of the following changes that have been made to the programme:

October			
Mon 6th	10.30 COFFEE	Daphne Barrand	Whitehorns Way
Tue 28th	7.30 MEETING	<i>Oxford to the Thames Barrier</i>	
Mr Cherry			

December			
Tue 8th	7.00 MEETING	Christmas Coffee Evening Caudwell Day Centre	



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## COUNCIL REPORTS

### Your District Councillor Column

First of all let me apologise for the omission of my article last month. I was taken ill just before I went on holiday and was unable to complete and send the article.

#### ROAD CALMING SCHEME

I attended a Didcot Integrated Transport Systems (DIDITS) presentation recently. Part of their study is to identify the needs of villages that will be affected by the increase in traffic by the planned Didcot development. The initial road-calming scheme developed by Halcrow showed Drayton as being marked down for speed cushions (see below) from north of the A34 bridge on Steventon Road to Sutton Wick Lane on the Abingdon Road. (I have asked for this to be extended to the southern limit of the village.) Other changes included entrance gateways and an island in Steventon Road at Lockway to facilitate pedestrian access to the village hall. Apparently no calming measures were proposed for the High Street because it is a Preservation area.

Although consultations are at an initial draft stage, if anyone has strong views on changes to the above perhaps they would like to let me know, preferably in writing, and I can pass any comments on to the Vale representatives on DIDITS.

Just a note on speed cushions. These are a series of low humps forcing car drivers to slow down, but overcoming the concerns about discomfort and delay expressed by bus companies and the emergency services. They are less intrusive than the sleeping policeman humps that can be a nuisance to residents close by due to the high level of vibrations.

#### LAW & ORDER

This is a follow up to the Public Meeting called in January. Rita Atkinson is working with the youngsters and the latest information I have is that they are creating their own Questionnaire. This form will hopefully identify what the youngsters would like in the community. This document was expected to be available some while back, but presumably the youngsters are putting a lot of thought into its design.

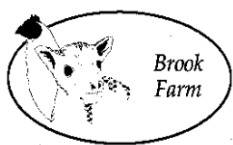
Through Rita and the Oxfordshire Association for Young People, arrangements have been made to hold discussion meetings at the Village hall for local young women (ages 13 to 17). These meetings started in June and expect to run through to August.

There was a Cricket match between the Youngsters and Adults of the Village one sunny Sunday in July. The adults won in the very last over! I understand it was very successful and hope this will help improve the relationships between the youngsters and the rest of the community. Many thanks to Caryn Small and her team of helpers for arranging the match.

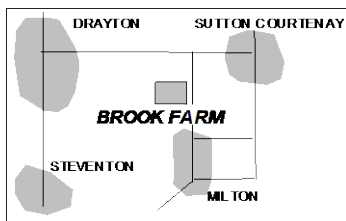
As agreed at the Public meeting, I am in regular contact with the police. Following an "incident" a few weeks back where a local lad was attacked and suffered a fractured skull and other injuries, I am advised by the police that four local youths have been charged with grievous bodily harm, with intent. The police advise that the maximum sentence is 10 years imprisonment.

After all that Rita, Caryn and her team, and to a limited extent, ⇨

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⇨ myself, have done to try and get the message across that crime doesn't pay, we still have serious assaults and vandalism by youths.

One issue that has been put to me relates to the substantial increase in rates going to the Thames Valley Police force. If you recall the increase was over 45%. I have been assured that action is being taken to improve local police cover, but further patience is required. Completion of the new telecomm system is progressing, which will make it easier to answer calls from the public. In the meantime, may I remind you that the number to call for non-emergency calls is 01235-555959.

The third local action was for the Parish council to extend the Neighbourhood Watch system. I am still waiting to learn how this is being actioned. In the meantime the police have agreed to make a leaflet drop in the area to try to encourage further coverage.

#### ABBAY GROUNDS

As you are perhaps aware, the Abbey Grounds are about to be restored. The phased plan is to start with the installation of a new play area in Abbey Meadows and, over a period of several years, to move on to work on the renovation of the Abbey Close Car Park, the re-creation of the lake at the far end of the abbey ground and then close with work on the abbey gateway. Work is planned to start in September.

Initially the work was going to be limited to rather extensive repairs. These were needed to make the Play area safe and to refurbish the Car Park. The cost was estimated at around £320,000. The cost of the new project, known as the Abbey Grounds Heritage project will be around £1.2M. So why is the Vale incurring the substantial additional cost, particularly as they are looking to minimise costs? The answer is Lottery money. With support from the Heritage lottery fund of £826,000 the cost of renovating this site is slightly more than the money set aside for the Play Area and Car Park renovation. Whether you agree the lottery money should be spent in this way, and I have certain reservations, at least you have the knowledge that your district council is making good use of the availability of funds.

#### COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Did you know there is a website that may be able to help anyone who is unable to use conventional public transport and is looking for an alternative means of travel to get from A to B. Don't worry if you don't have internet access, as alternative arrangements are available.

Continued Opposite ⇨

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⇒ The example in the publicity leaflet is of a person who uses a wheel-chair and needs to get to the hospital for an appointment. There are no local buses at that time. The person types in his or her circumstances and the web-site searches through all the Community Transport schemes on its database and sees if there is a match. The real benefit is that instead of much time being spent in contacting each of the many organisations until a match is found, the website does this search quickly and effectively. The match is highlighted and you can contact the scheme coordinator to make the booking. The service is free.

The scheme is known as a2b. The website is [www.a2binfo.net/oxfordshire](http://www.a2binfo.net/oxfordshire) If you don't have computer facilities (or have queries about the web-site,) you can always phone 01865 – 883488 and ask for the Rural Community Transport Worker at Oxford Rural Community Council. The scheme is part funded by the Vale of White Horse District Council.

### WASTE REDUCTION

Thanks to your efforts the Vale has been able to reduce the amount of waste that is sent to the landfill site. The Vale is the leader in Oxfordshire with the lowest level of waste, achieving a 3% drop in landfill waste. As there are national plans to increase the tax on waste sent to landfill sites, the less waste sent there will mean a reduction in costs. (It helps with your rates.) What will be even more helpful is to reduce the amount of waste that is collected. Already many of you are composting your green waste or taking it to the "tip", where it is composted.

Apparently some 500,000 tonnes of unsolicited mail, better known as junk mail is produced every year. (I just wonder how many trees this requires!) For years now I have received junk mail and in the majority of cases have binned it – no doubt like yourself –and realise it wastes my time and fills my black sacks faster. Not now. I have put a stop to this. For further details contact Oxfordshire County Council on 01865-792422

By the way, just a reminder that the green waste collected at the "tip" is composted and resold for £2 a 40 litre bag. When you next take rubbish to the "tip" you might like to take some compost home with you.

### CYCLE PATH

I really get frustrated with the County Council at times!

The cycle track work has been deferred – again. This may not come as a surprise to many of you. I confess I am getting very tired of the numerous excuses made by the OCC. ⇒

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

**Daniel Scharf**

Parish Council meeting on 7 July 2003

After a very long wait a slightly longer bus shelter than was on order has been erected on the Green. Maybe the supplier has heard that more people will be waiting longer for a bus. We are waiting to hear what will take the place of the 32 service in August.

The other long wait has been for the upgrade of the cycle track to Abingdon. This is now scheduled for the end of the year.

The Council looked at the objections to the Local Plan lodged by the Earl of Plymouth Estates; proposing extensive housing development on the land between Whitehorns Way/Lockway and the A34 and on the field to the south of Henleys Lane. It decided to both write to the Vale expressing concerns about these schemes and to the landowner to learn more about their intentions that conflict with previous agreements about the future of the land in the centre of the village. Anybody who has strong feelings about new housing on these sites or development in the village in general could speak to a parish councillor or come to a meeting of the Council.

St Helen Without Parish Council are starting a campaign to see whether something can be done about the noise of traffic on the A34. Our Council noted that 'quiet tarmac' at Botley and Chilton seems to be very successful as would be a reduced speed limit. If the Earl of Plymouth paid for these traffic measures they may stand more chance of developing behind Whitehorns Way.



⇒ The reason this time, I am told is that the contractors, engaged by the OCC have just discovered that cable work has been laid alongside the cycle path! Now this may come as a surprise to a national firm of roadway contractors, but not to the ordinary man or woman, particularly those living in Drayton. The contractors were supposed to have examined the area previously, and the path should have been finished in June, according to the last forecast. I have written a letter of complaint to the newly appointed director of environmental services at the OCC. More next time!

### Reminder

The next Surgery will be held at 9.00 at the Village Hall on Saturday 2nd August. I look forward to meeting any Drayton residents who wish to come along and discuss their concerns.

Regards

*Grahame Ash (Your Community Councillor)*

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## DRAYTON DIARY

### FOR AUGUST

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise  
Regular Events are listed opposite

Sat	2	9.00 am	Councillor G Ash surgery (until 10.00 am)	
Mon	4	7.45 pm	Parish Council	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Sat	9		Private Party	
Sat	16		Wedding	
Mon	18	9.15am	Chronicle Lottery deadline	<i>Vickery's</i>
		5.15pm	Chronicle copy deadline	<i>Vickery's box</i>
Fri	22		Private Party	
Sat	23		Private Party	
Sun	24	12.00 pm	Youth Club Cricket Match	

### Drayton Diary is a FREE Service !

Everyone should know about your event, especially if you are raising funds, for no matter what! And you don't want it to conflict with someone else's, do you? Just contact the editor of the coming month, always listed on page 2 of the latest Chronicle, to get your event listed in the Monthly Diary

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## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

9.00 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)	
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>

### TUESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
3.30 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
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

9.00 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

9.00 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. Tel: 531701	
8.00 pm	Wilt/Berks Canal Group (3rd Thursday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>

### FRIDAYS

9.00 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>
7.15pm	Choir Practice	<i>St Peter's</i>

### SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
8.45 am	Mass	<i>Roman Catholic Church, Sutton Courtenay</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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