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DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley Volume 27, No.7 August 2004

THE DERRICK ERA DRAWS TO A CLOSE

When the Chronicle asked Dorothy Derrick what she most wanted to achieve as she came to Drayton to take charge of our Parish Church, she said 'to be accepted in the village'. No one can doubt she has succeeded in that and will be greatly missed by many of us in Drayton who are not regular worshippers at St Peters as well as those who are. (See the tribute on page 5 from Janet Strong) Like a vicar in Devon whose remembered him with the same words, she 'has endeared herself alike to those who thought with her and those who did not'.



Traditionally, the most successful vicars had wives who became part of the church team and Dorothy is no exception; she has John. He has supported her in Drayton with as much dignity, charm and sheer hard work as Dorothy herself. We thank them both and wish them many years of happiness in Carlisle.

Derek Pooley

AUTOHARP WORKSHOPS

Mike Herr, three-times champion autoharper, will be the featured teacher and performer at the next UK Autoharp Day, which will be held in Sutton Courtenay Village Hall on 18th September. This is the next in a series of thrice-yearly events which began in Drayton in 1999, and are now held in different venues around the UK.

Each UK Autoharp Day is organised with workshops which support all levels of player, including absolute beginners (we can supply a loan autoharp to use on the day). The instrument has a very gentle beginner's 'learning curve' but can also be played to a very high standard – as Mike and other talented autoharpers will demonstrate in September.



The new venue means that we will also be able to have an early-evening concert (between 7 and 9 pm) on that day - open to anyone who wants to hear the autoharp in performance.

Contact Nadine White, Secretary of UK Autoharps, for further details on (01235) 531559 or check out the UK Autoharps Website on www.ukautoharps.org.uk

After several years serving as Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's Church, Dorothy Derrick retires in September. She and her husband John will be moving to Carlisle to be closer to their family.

Dorothy and John have given outstanding service to both the church and to Drayton as a whole and I am sure there will be many people in the village who will want to wish them well.

Dorothy's last Sunday service will be on September 5th. Anyone wishing to make a

contribution should contact me on 530519.

Peter Cline

FRUIT & VEG IN THE VILLAGE

Oxfordshire Playbus is helping groups of people in villages to set up a 'Fruit & Veg' scheme. The Playbus will deliver bags of assorted fruit & veg to a central point in the village; the local group in the village needs to arrange the distribution point, publicise the scheme and keep a register of buyers.

The aim of the scheme is to make affordable fruit & veg more available to communities, and it only takes a few people to get it started. (The project will also raise money for the Playbus, a local charity which takes play opportunities to isolated rural parts of Oxfordshire).

If you're interested in helping set up a fruit & veg scheme in your community contact Gina Wood at Oxfordshire Playbus on 01869 232897 or 01869 322155.

Also in this issue

- P4 To hoard or not to hoard, that is the question.
- P5 Drayton Youth Charity Secretary needed.
- P5 A new Young People's Drop-in Centre in Didcot.
- P6 Why not become a Roman legionnaire!
- P6 How about 3-hour church services?
- P8 Join the Drayton traffic-calming debate!
- P8 How about some healthy walking?
- P9 How about some unhealthy (but delicious) soufflé?

DRAYTON PRE-SCHOOL

NEEDS A HANDYMAN!

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Minor repairs, putting shelves up & small maintenance jobs



PAY can be discussed

Please contact Anita On 01235 526444

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The September Chronicle will be available for distribution to Area Agents on Friday, 27 August 2004 from Helen Brasington, 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, 16 August 2004.

After this deadline, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only 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 | 13 September 2004 | 24 September 2004 |
| November | 18 October 2004 | 29 October 2004 |
| December | 22 November 2004 | 03 December 2004 |

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; too many 'Chronicles' are 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 31/2" 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

For a 1/10th page Block Advert Small Advertiser --- Number of Inserts ---Advert Category: 6 12 per word 3 Drayton Resident £4.00 £10.50 £21.50 £40.00 Non-Drayton Resident £5.00 £13.50 £27.00 £50.00 3p 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, during 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 | 0550 | Joan Sinclair, 16,Crabtree Lane | Joan Sinclair |
| £20 | 0785 | Mrs Botley, 1a Church Lane | Susan Brooks |
| £15 | 2281 | P.Vacher, Gilbournes Farm | Claire Soper |
| £10 | 2265 | Mrs Carter, Windyridge | Claire Soper |
| £10 | 0019 | Mr Hackett, 27 Abingdon Road | Jane Henderson |
| £10 | 1080 | Janet Woolley, The Red Lion | Sheila Cook |
| £10 | 0079 | S. Lucas, The Shires, Sutton Wck Lane | Carol Arnold |
| £10 | 1537 | B. Warwick, 210 Steventon Road | Sarah Church |
| £10 | 1784 | E. Sweeney, 106 Whitehorns Way | Terry Arnold |
| £10 | 1306 | John Cross, 3, Eastway Mobile Park | Teresa Burnage |
| The winning tickets were drawn by members of Drayton Art Group | | | |

from the 2110 tickets sold

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

A while ago you asked where Drayton Chronicles are sent. Every month I obtain a spare copy and send it to the Morgans who used to live in Cornville Road, but moved to Carmarthen three years ago. They look forward to reading all the news. It also saves my telling them all about Drayton. I think it is an excellent production.

Gwen Price

Dear Editor

I would like to thank last month's Editor Tony Holmes for putting the Charlie Mudford tribute on the front page, Charlie would have been thrilled to have made the front page of the Chronicle.

Janet Strong

Editor's Note: Thank you, Gwen and Janet. It's always a pleasure for the editors to have nice comments about the Chronicle

Dear Editor

On behalf of my family and myself I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all our friends and neighbours for their donations to the International Myeloma Foundation (UK) in memory of my wife, Valerie Millington Hale, who died in March.

I would especially like to thank the Drayton Baptist Chapel and the ladies of the Women's Institute for their fund raising efforts. The total amount collected was an overwhelming £1,257, which makes a wonderful memorial to Valerie.

Thank you once again

David Hale

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

We extend a warm welcome and wish much happiness in their new homes in Drayton to:

- Judy Foster and Chris D'Cruze who have moved to Newman Lane, with their cats Clover and Daisy
- Mr and Mrs Hickey who have moved in to Meads Close
- Laura and David Hughes who are now in Lockway
- The McMahon family who have moved from Newman Lane to Lesparre Close
- Mr and Mrs Peach who have also moved to Meads Close

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Letters to the Editor are accepted on the understanding that opinions expressed are strictly those of the correspondent. The Editor reserves the right to 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.

ST PETER'S CHURCH

| Priest in Charge | Revd Dorothy M Derrick The Vicarage, 8 Gravel Lane, Drayto | |
|---------------------------|---|--------|
| Licensed Lay Minister | Dr Peter Barton | 523702 |
| Churchwardens | Mr Peter Cline | |
| Organist & Choirmaster | Mr Adrian Thompson01865 | 714801 |

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 |
| Mon - Fri | 6.00 pm 8.15 am | Evening Prayer (CW) Morning Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel |
| Wed | 10.30 am 6.00 pm | Parents' & Toddlers Service in Church Room Evening Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel |
| Thurs | 9.30 am | Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel. |

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday 7.45 pm Bell Ringing Practice Bell Tower

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

| Tues | 3rd 3.00 pm | First Tuesday Connections | Church Room |
|------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Sat | 14th 2.00 pm | Wedding - Drysdale/Vause | Church |
| Sun | 15th 11.15 am | Sale of Fair Trade goods | Church |
| Sat | 21st 2.00 pm | Wedding – Davis/Russell | Church |

Please note that the Parents & Toddlers Service, Choir Practice and Sunday Pebbles & Rocks activities are suspended during August.

PARISH REGISTER

Marriages

19th June Julian John Vacher with

Amanda Jane Eadie

26th June Duncan James Denton with

Vanessa Catherine Webb

Funerals

15th July Arthur Viner

15th July Revd. John Loveland

YOU STAY - WE PRAY

1-14 August: Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway mobile home park; 15-21 August: Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane; 22 August -4 Sept: Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road;







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Letter from The Revd. Dorothy Derrick

Dear Friends,

As we prepare to leave the Vicarage it is time to have a sort out. I am a great one for keeping things just in case they may be useful and we have boxes full of all sorts of treasures - stones, shells, fir cones, butterflies, fossils, ribbons etc. This move has implications as to the things that I need to keep and those that can be consigned to the bin. However there still remains that nagging feeling that they might be useful and how cross I would feel if I threw it away and then found that I needed it. I am sure that I am not the only one to have this problem!

On reflection it's a bit like that with our minds. From the time we are born until the time when our brains begin to fail us, we cram them full of facts and experiences. The brain neatly files them away and we can usually retrieve them when they are needed.

The same thing happens with our spiritual experiences. As we experience the presence of God through our lives, we begin to have a store of spiritual insights which stand us in good stead for the future. Much research has been done on this topic and I heard some interesting facts and figures quoted on the radio about the numbers of people who own to having had an experience of God. The quote that amused me somewhat was that middle class Anglicans were the least likely to own up to such experiences. I personally have not found this to be the case. It is much more likely that such people have found those experiences to have been so special and personal that they have not shared them with anyone.

My first such experience of God was at the age of five or six and took place in the middle of the bluebell wood at Ashridge. I was just sitting surrounded by bluebells when I experienced the stillness and otherness of God. Of course I did not recognise it as a God experience until much later, following other such experiences along the way. Ashridge has become for me a place of pilgrimage ever since, but only a few friends have accompanied me to that special place and heard my story and shared the mystery.

These are the sort of treasures that can never be discarded or thrown away. They remain precious steps on the way to God, from whom we came and to whom we shall return. Take time this summer to allow God to reveal himself to you and treasure these things in your heart.

Yours prayerfully Dorothy Derrick

PS May I take this opportunity of thanking you for your support at St. Peter's Church Fete when we made £1,950. It was a great day and the rain held off.



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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 next Family Service will be on 1st August, led by Janet Strong

A Baptist thank you to Rev Dorothy Derrick

Our evening services are taken by different speakers, as our church cannot afford a full time minister. We have to rely on the help of many wonderful people, so there is always a service to suit someone. Two of these wonderful people are Rev Dorothy Derrick and Lay Minister Peter Barton of St Peters Church, who have come once a month to do an evening service for us for many years.

Of course there is a lot to do in any church, let alone helping another, but they give up their time to help us here at the Baptist church, and we are very grateful.

As Dorothy is retiring and leaving Drayton in September, it will be a sad loss to us and everyone in the village. I am sure there are many in Drayton whom she has married and not to mention all the wonderful babies she has Christened, and also all her many home visits and the care and personal touch she gives in such a loving way.

Of course I must not forget to mention John Derrick, and his wonderful skill at carpentry, so many things he has made. And also all his hard work in the grave yard, I've seen him out there on many a hot day, but he hasn't seen me! He has kept it so tidy.

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FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

Our next two meetings will be on the 3rd of August and the 7th of September and we look forward to welcoming anyone feeling lonely, isolated or in need of company for whatever reason to drop in to St Peters Church room any time between 3 pm and 4.30 pm on those dates. Tea and coffee are always on the go and you may be sure of very friendly company and conversation. Please do give me your ring on 531558 if you would like more information or need transport.

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Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

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HOME VISITS

....00000....

APPOINTMENTS

Mrs Hazel MOODEY, 48 Hanney Road, Steventon. Tel. (01235) 834093

⇒ So Dorothy, just want to say from everyone here at the Baptist Church, we will really miss you and all want to thank you for your help in our church.

We will all pray that you and John will have Gods Blessing, for this new time in your lives, and wish you both all the very very best for the future, with LOVE from us all here at the Baptist Church.

PSALM 143 verse 8: I have put my trust in you . Show me the way I should go.

Janet Strong

NOTICE BOARD

YOUTH CENTRE CHARITY Graham Bird

The Annual meeting of the Drayton Youth Centre Charity was held in July at the Caudwell Day Centre. The following Youth organisations benefited from Grants as follows:

Drayton Pre-School Playgroup £75.00
 St Peter's Church Youth Groups £75.00
 Drayton Toddlers £75.00
 Drayton Brownies £75.00

Ann Webb was re-elected as Chairman; Graham Bird was elected Treasurer; Graham Bird remains as acting Secretary

Andrew Thomas resigned his position as Treasurer after 10 years of service. The committee thanks Andrew for his excellent input to the Charity

The charity committee is now in urgent need of a Secretary. The committee meets once a year to distribute funds gained on its investments to Youth groups from Drayton village. We meet once a year and will only occupy about **2 hours** of someone's time a year. If anybody would like to help and fill this vacancy, please contact Graham Bird, 9 Gravel Lane. Tel 533194

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DROP-IN CENTRES

A new drop-in centre for young people, called 'Opening Doors', has been opened in Didcot, complementing the 'Abingdon Bridge' drop-in centre in Abingdon. Both offer information & support relating to:

- Drugs & alcohol
- Housing & benefits
- Sexual health
- Relationships
- Employment & education
- Counselling

Opening Doors is at the Didcot Baptist Church Centre, 43 Wantage Road, Didcot and is initially open on Tuesdays from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. The Abingdon Bridge is at 27 Bridge Street in Abingdon and is open Mondays and Fridays 10.00 am to 2.00 pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm

ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Margaret Long

Our usual coffee mornings and whist evenings continue as usual and always provide such a good way to get together and enjoy each other's company.

I gather that our lunch at the end of June provided very good food but very poor service. A number of members gave up on desserts and coffees, which was very disappointing - rather like the summer weather we have been having recently.

Let's hope for a fine evening for our Jacob's Join at Jean Taylor's on 27th July.

Dates for your diary in August: -

Mon 2nd 10.30 COFFEE Pam Lacey, 13 W'horns Way Mon 16th 7.15 WHIST Shirley Thomas, Caudwell D.C Tue 31st To be announced

BOWLS CLUB Roll Up

The Geoff Attwood Trophy was won by Pam Leather with a resounding 57 points. The Winter League begins in September.

As usual, any queries or applications to Doreen Jones or secretary Jane Pimm

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

The branch extends its thanks to all who supported our sixtieth anniversary of D Day service on Sunday 6 June and also those who joined us for lunch at the Lantern Restaurant afterwards.

There will be no Committee meeting in August.

DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

Rehearsals are well underway for our music-hall presentation in October and it will include many of our junior, as well as senior, members. The programme planned is very lively and varied and we are all looking forward to something rather different from our usual productions. There will be more details to follow and I will keep you up-to-date as they become more available. Our musical play for next February, which at present has the working title 'The legend of Boudicca' is in the early stages of casting and we could really do with some young men to join us in this venture. If anyone would like to consider a part as a Roman soldier or an Iceni tribesmen please contact Richard Webber (on 534001 or 523374) who will be delighted to give you further information.

W.I. Doreen Buckland

Despite the wet and windy evening, members had an enjoyable time. After the business meeting we had a very interesting talk and slide show given by Mrs Sheila Hallam, of her visit to Amish in the U.S.A. She told us about the women who make a living from making lovely patchwork bedspreads and cushions. When the ladies marry, they wear a blue dress and bonnet with a white apron; the apron is never worn again. The men are either farmers or carpenters. The married men have beards and wear straw hats, so you can distinguish them from the single men. The average family has seven children and the only transport is horse and cart. There are no electricity or telephones, lighting is by gas lamp. They hold church services in one another's houses which can last for up to three hours; they sit on wooden benches, which are taken from house to house.

The raffle this month was won by Maureen Clift and Janice Davies. The August meeting will be held in the Cauldwell Centre, when we will visit member's gardens, before returning to the Centre, for a bring and share supper. We would like to remind everyone about the Grow, Cook and Sew, on Saturday September the 11th in the Drayton Hall. Schedules are available from local shops and Mrs Webb.

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MORE ALL AROUND

TODDLER GROUP

Anna Loughlin

Summer has arrived at last and Toddlers hope you all have a relaxing and happy holiday time. Due to the drop in attendance over the summer months, the Tuesday Toddler session (not the Thursday session, as stated in the previous edition) will relocate to people's gardens within the village from 20 July until the end of August. Please phone Anna (206170) to find out where the play session will be held. The Thursday session (9.30 - 11.30am) will continue as normal. Toddlers joined forces with Drayton Pre-School for the annual teddy bears' Picnic. Thankfully, the weather held and we all enjoyed our goodies on the Millennium Green. Thanks to Christine, Oz, Dusty and Claire for letting us join in the fun!

Looking ahead, the Toddler Fun-Day is just around the corner. The big event will be held at Drayton Hall on Tuesday, 14th September between 2.00pm and 4.30pm. As usual, a great afternoon is guaranteed for the children. Mums, come and enjoy a cake and a cuppa and browse some exciting stalls. Children, come and have fun on the Bouncy Castle, play with all the Toddlers' toys and have your photograph taken (Tempest Photography). Please come and support us.

Finally a message to all new mums in Drayton and mums new to Drayton. Please come along to our Toddler Group. You will be most welcome.

PRE-SCHOOL Anita Hedditch

The end of the Summer Term is upon us; children are excited about holidays, teachers look forward to a break also and the carpet is looking forward to its annual clean from spilt food and drinks.

We have been a thriving group this year, with the theme for this term unsurprisingly 'Holidays'. The children had a wonderful time setting up a campsite in the play area and even enjoying bangers and beans as a feast. Face painting has been explored in various themes also, from 'flower power' to the more traditional face painting styles. We held a successful Open Day in June, and are looking forward to a teddy bears picnic to mark the end of term, this is when we will sadly say goodbye to Dusty.

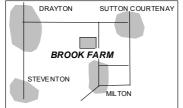
We say a farewell to Dusty also, as previously mentioned in the last chronicle entry. She has been a wonderful support to the Supervisors during her 7 years work with us. She will be sadly missed by children, staff and committee alike. Thank you Dusty, for all your hard work

We are saying goodbye to a number of children as they join the local schools, so goodbye to Annie, Hannah, George, Lewis, James E, William, James H, Leah, Brandon, Finlay, Lucie, Terri, Emma, Matthew, Hannah, Lucy and Darcie.. We wish you all a happy entry into your new locations of primary education. In September we welcome new children into the playgroup setting, so hello to Max, Rhiannon, Jacob, Grace, Ione, Craig, Samantha, and Jade in advance.

We have also managed to fill the gap that Dusty has left, and will welcome Denise as a new Assistant Play Leader to join the pre-school at the beginning of the September Term. We wish a happy and safe holiday to all.

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TRAFFIC CALMING Eric Tull

Exactly what type of so-called traffic calming is supposed to be heading towards Drayton? Is there to be yet another village assault course consisting of humps, bumps, jumps, chicanes and cameras to further infuriate drivers and add even more wear and tear to the suspension system of their vehicles, including of course the village in residents cars as well. There is a 30 mph limit from one end of the village to the other that has sufficed pretty well, and the steady flow of traffic is literally self controlling speed-wise, and people do need to get to work, eventually. As the saying goes; if it ain't broke don't try and fix it.

There are people of course who would like to see the entire country crawling around at 20 to 30 mph. Not practical in this day and age I am afraid.

If anybody cares to witness some real speed and dangerous driving visit the Dropshort area between Sutton and Drayton, the Milton Road Junction. A 40 mph limit that has traffic hammering past here at 50, 60,70 mph plus, no problem.

That's the sort of situation that requires action, but as we are under Sutton Parish who will not even continue the pavement and lighting system to connect Sutton to our area I am not holding my breath. Compared to our Road I don't think Drayton has a real problem. Traffic volumes, yes. Idiotic, dangerous driving - hardly.

Editors comment. Mr Tull is right that a 'steady flow of traffic is (or can be) self controlling speed-wise'. This is effective when roads are so busy that irresponsible drivers cannot speed between vehicles or overtake. But Drayton High Street, Abingdon Road and Steventon Road are often not busy enough for that and drivers are free to speed. We need speed restricting devices for off-peak times, be they chicanes, humps, cushions or speed activated signs advocated last month by Tony Holmes. Moreover, in the busy times of the day, the speed of cars may not be excessive but their number is. Pedestrians (especially the very young and very old) need help to cross the continuous streams flowing then, at chicanes or pedestrian crossings.

HEALTH WALK SCHEME

Health Walks are fun, free and friendly and the Abingdon scheme so far has one walk a week starting at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre, Audlett Drive, at 2.30pm every Sunday. Health Walks are led by trained volunteers and are graded for different abilities. The Abingdon Walk is designed for people who do little or no exercise, and as such is about 1.5 miles long, with options for shorter loops if necessary. There are plans underway to start a Wednesday walk in the near future and walk leaders are currently being trained for this.

It is a sad reality that in the UK today 7 out of 10 people are at risk from serious health problems such as coronary heart disease and colon cancer, simply because they are not active enough. Taking part in a Health Walk provides a perfect form of exercise because it provides moderate intensity activity for about 30 minutes and thereby quickly brings benefits to your health. In addition to the physical benefits of walking, the Health Walks provide an opportunity to meet new people and have fun.

Please contact Anne Ambler (01235 205588) or Teresa Roberts (01235 205555) for any more information on health walks in your area, or just turn up!



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WOODEN SPOON RECIPE Lois Rennells

This is recipe number 3 - from September 1969 - Brandy or Rum Soufflé (serves 8)

- 3 free range eggs *
- 12 sponge cakes
- 1/2 pint double cream
- 2 tablespoons brandy or rum
- 3 ozs caster sugar
- 1 Cadbury's flake

Cut sponge cakes into small cubes. Place in a large bowl and sprinkle with brandy or rum. Whip double cream.

Separate the eggs. Whisk the yolks with 1 1/2 ozs of the caster sugar in a basin over hot water until frothy. Remove from the heat and whisk until cold. Whisk the whites stiffly and fold in the remaining 1 1/2 ozs sugar.

Gently fold the cream into the yolks and then carefully fold in the whipped egg white with a metal tablespoon using a cutting action to make sure all the white is incorporated.

Place one third of the soufflé mixture into a very large serving dish, put half the sponge cake cubes on top, then another third of soufflé mixture, then the remaining sponge cake cubes and then the remaining third of soufflé mixture.

Sprinkle with crumbled chocolate flake and chill in the refrigerator.

* N.B. In 1969 we did not worry about eating raw eggs, but if making this recipe now, the usual precaution of not giving raw eggs to the elderly, young children or anyone with an immune deficiency should be observed.







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could have been filled by something you had written. Send us your contribution by email or drop it into 'The Chronicle Box' or just let the Editor have some notes to work on. See 'Notes for Contributors on page 2

COUNCIL REPORTS: 1

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Grahame Ash

Beyond Belief

After all our efforts to have a cycle track to Abingdon free from ruts and pot-holes, I am absolutely amazed to find that within weeks of its completion it is being dug up for pipe-laying. The contractors however do have a responsibility to ensure the work is made good. You can rest assured I will be closely monitoring the progress and quality of the contractor's work.

Local Income Tax v. Council Rates

The Prime minister ruled out a local income tax as an alternative source of revenue for Councils; this was a proposal put forward by the Lib-Dems. I now learn that a revision to the number of Council tax bands is likely, possibly from 8 to 10, reflecting the surge in house price inflation. It is unlikely councils will be given extra powers to increase Business rates. These will still remain pegged to the retail price index. In the meantime this will result in more council tax falling on domestic shoulders — or perhaps I should say their pockets! My concern is that this will provide the Government with another opportunity of increasing taxes by stealth.

All Change at the Council

The meeting of the Full Council on 23rd June decided to change the set-up of the main committees. Until recently there were 4 Policy Overview Committees. As the name suggests they were responsible for determining the Policy of the Council. The Vale subsequently endorsed their recommendations. There were however a number of complaints that there were too few meetings. However the main reason for not having frequent meetings was due to there being insufficient items to discuss. Once it has adopted its policy/strategy for the year, the Vale, like any other business, doesn't need to review it frequently. Any day-to-day issues are managed by the Executive Committee. Last year, the Economic and Tourist Policy Overview Committee met only once, essentially re-confirming the existing policy. This policy has through its implementation, resulted in the District Council being awarded 'Beacon Status' for its tourism revitalisation programme of the Faringdon area.

One Committee – the Strategic Review Committee, is now replacing the four Policy Overview Committees, introduced two years ago to help formulate strategy. This new committee has a number of objectives, the main one being to assist the Executive in the development and review of Council's Budget and Policy framework. This committee will have a much higher number of councillors than other committees, allowing for the wider range of knowledge and expertise required.

Whilst the Licensing Committee remains, its number of members has been increased to help cope with the increased burden (red tape) introduced by the Licensing Act of 2003.

The Accounts Committee is also new. Its responsibilities will include the receiving of management letters and reports from the District Auditor. This has been created in response to the increasing government red tape.

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→ That leaves just 3 more committees – Development Control (dealing with Planning), Personnel, Regulatory and Appeal, and the Scrutiny Committee.

In summing up, the number of committees falls from eight to six, and the number of seats reducing from 92 to 73. With fewer meetings and fewer councillors attending, there will be an opportunity to reduce costs. Unfortunately the cost of increased governmental red tape will more than offset this saving.

Grove Development

The Lib-Dem members of the Vale were adamant that the infrastructure should be in place before the development of 2,100 dwellings at Grove by 2016. This was one of the conditions agreed at the Lib-Dem group meeting some while ago, to try to minimise the impact of the Grove development. This followed the governmental decision to increase substantially the number of homes in Oxfordshire. At the Full Council meeting in June, a cross party motion was passed, calling upon Oxfordshire County Council to commit substantial funding for the necessary infrastructure required to support this huge development. The motion also called for an Integrated Transport Study to be commenced immediately for Wantage and Grove (WAGITS) to give due and proper consideration to both existing and future infrastructure needs in the area. Essentially we are asking for this project to be better managed than that of the Didcot area.

And finally, my next Surgery will be held at 9.00 at the Village Hall on Saturday 7th August. I look forward to meeting any Drayton residents who wish to come along and discuss their concerns.

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COUNCIL REPORTS: 2

PARISH COUNCIL

Daniel Scharf

MEETING on 5 July 2004

Amid rumours that speed humps are about to appear throughout the village it seems that the only commitment is to three 'entrance features' intended to reduce speeds of those entering the village. Traffic calming within the village should be the subject of consultations in September.

Incidentally, traffic calming was also a hot topic at the Church fete where I was looking to see whether there was any interest in producing a village plan. The opposition to humps was matched by support for raised mini roundabouts at the road junctions within the village. There is also support for the variable message signs where the speed limit lights up if approached too fast or shows a smiley or frowny. Despite offers of help from 8 people, there is not yet enough interest in a village plan from important parts of the village; e.g. local businesses, the under 30s and under 20s. There is not much point in having a plan that does not represent the views of the whole village. If anybody feels that they can broaden the scope of the plan or bring skills that could help in its production then please contact me, if only to find out more about what may be involved.

Drayton is not contributing to the Damascus project on the scale of the other villages and volunteer drivers are needed. Please contact Rita Atkinson Tel 848694 if you can help get this worthwhile project moving in Drayton.

The next meeting of the Parish Council (2 August) will be discussing the proposed changes to the second deposit draft local plan (available for inspection in Abbey House, public libraries or on the Web). Anybody who has any views on this could come along and let us know.

If the car boot sale starts again between Drayton and Abingdon the VWHDC say that it should have a less intrusive sign displayed on the day before and that of the sale. The operator has also been asked by the VWHDC to reduce the impact of paraphernalia left on the site between sales, including the toilets.

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→ To end with some bad news; Maria, our very able clerk, has resigned. Hopefully there will have been very many people wanting to take on this worthwhile job and I will report on the succession next month. Once again, I have to say that the future of the parish council

itself appears to be in some doubt without new blood and anybody who wants to know what this could involve is welcome to come on 2 August at 7.45 at the Caudwell Day Centre to raise an issue or just to listen.

Daniel Scharf



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DRAYTON DIARY

FOR AUGUST

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise (To book Drayton Hall call 531501)

Regular Events are listed opposite

2 7.45 pm Parish Council Caudwell Day Centre Mon 7 9.00 am Councillor G Ash surgery (until 10.00 am) Sat Private party

Private Party

14 Sat

Mon 16 9.15 am Chronicle Lottery deadline Vickery's 5.15 pm Chronicle copy deadline Vickery's box

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| Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise | | |
|--|--|--|
| MONDAY | S | |
| 9.00 am | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg | |
| 12.30 pm | Pre-School Playgroup afternoon session | |
| 1.30 pm | Afternoon Social Caudwell Day Centre | |
| 2.00 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours) | |
| 5.45 pm | Beavers (Boys/girls, 6–8 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall | |
| 7.00 pm | Scouts (Boys/girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall | |
| 7.00 pm | Badminton (Private Group) | |
| 7.00 pm | Keep fit / slimming class | |
| 7.15 pm | Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday) Caudwell DC | |
| 7.30pm | Youth Club (until 9.30pm) | |
| 7.30 pm | Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours) School | |
| 7.45 pm | Parish Council (1st Monday) Caudwell DC | |
| 7.45 pm | Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) St Peter's | |
| TUESDAY | | |
| 9.00 am | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg | |
| | followed by lunch club and afternoon session | |
| 9.30 am | Parent and Toddler Group | |
| 1.45 pm | Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) Caudwell Day Centre | |
| 3.00 pm | First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) Church Room | |
| 3.00 pm | Junior Netball (for 1 hour) School | |
| 6.00 pm | Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour) School | |
| 7.30 pm | Senior League Table Tennis School | |
| 7.30 pm | Drayton Wives (Last Tues in the month) | |
| WEDNESI | ·- | |
| 9.00 am 10.30 am | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg Parent and Toddler Service Church Room | |
| | Whist – now each week Caudwell Day Centre | |
| 2.00 pm 2.15 pm | Badminton | |
| 6.15 pm | Brownies | |
| 6.00 pm | Evening Prayer St Peter's Lady Chapel | |
| 6.15 pm | Cubs (Boys / girls, 8–9 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall | |
| 7.00 pm | Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour) School | |
| 7.00 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours) | |
| 7.30 pm | Bingo Session Caudwell Day Centre | |
| 8.00 pm | Senior Table Tennis School | |
| THURSDA | | |
| 9.00 am | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg followed by lunch club and afternoon session | |
| 9.30 am | Holy Communion St Peter's Lady Chapel | |
| 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) The Green Car Pk | |
| 2.00 pm | Darby & Joan Club Caudwell Day Centre | |
| 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) School | |
| 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) Caudwell DC | |
| FRIDÂYS | * ` ` | |
| 9.00 am | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) Sch'l Ground Bldg | |
| 11.00 am | The Friday Club (to 3.30) 202466 Caudwell Day Centre | |
| 7.15pm | Choir Practice St Peter's | |
| SUNDAYS | | |
| 8.00 am | Holy Communion St Peter's | |
| 10.00 am | Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday) St Peter's | |
| 11.30 am | Family Time Baptist Church | |
| 6.00 pm | Evening Worship Baptist Church St. Batar's | |
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St Peter's

6.00 pm Evening Prayer

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