

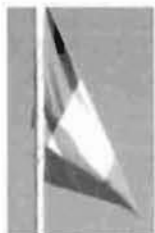
# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 27 No. 8

September 2004

## ENTENTE CORDIALE



### DRAYTON/ LESPARRE 2004

Geoffrey Long



Over the first weekend in August thirty-six members of the Drayton Twinning Group journeyed by car, ferry and air to meet up in our twin town, Lesparre-Médoc.

Once there we were welcomed most warmly by our many friends in Lesparre and during our stay we were treated to many of the delights that the region has to offer – including some gloriously sunny days.

Our hosts had worked hard on a programme that included:- a guided walk round the *maraise* (a nature reserve on the shores of the Gironde estuary); a boat trip on the same estuary; and visits to various aspects of the local industry – the vineyards.

This included an evening barbeque at Château Mazails in Saint Yzans de Médoc, the fermentation vessels where it all happens, and the *chais* where the barrels of wine are matured. We also visited the Uni-Médoc in Gaillan where we saw their *chais*, bottling, labelling and packing plant. It would have been churlish to have refused to broaden our education by turning down the comparative tastings that were offered throughout. The programme also allowed time to visit the celebrated Montalivet street market and spend an afternoon at the beach on the famous Atlantic Coast – Le Côte d'Argent.

There were plenty of chances to relax, to improve ones' French and to cement the wonderful friendships that continue to grow during each visit. We will always remember the giant paella for one hundred people at the dinner-dance held in the Saint-Threnody church hall; our indoor *pique-nique* which was held in the local sports club – owing to heavy showers – but perhaps most memorable of all, sharing meals and the hospitality offered in their homes by our hosts.



(Enjoying the sun, sea and sand)



By happy coincidence (!) our visit took place during Lesparre's 54th Annual Wine Fair and to our surprise and delight **Emily Bell**, accompanied by a fanfare from the band, was invited to inaugurate the festival by cutting the tape. (See photo with the Maire Monsieur Bernard Prévôt, the Deputy du Médoc Jean-François Rêgère and Marie-Claude Candelier who organises the Wine Fair).

Other surprises were in store for the Bell family when, in recognition of his services to the twinning between Lesparre and Drayton, Michael was honoured and initiated into *L'Ordre Médulian – Confrérie de l'Art de Vivre en Pays Médoc* at the Dinner Dance. We understand this is the brotherhood of those that enjoy the life and all that the Médoc has to offer and as far as we know Michael is the only *anglais* member. During the ceremony he was invested with impressive red robes, a tricorne hat, a medallion and a gold painted pine cone - one of the symbols of the region.

All this added up to a most successful visit and we are grateful to Anne-Marie Aspa, her committee and of course our wonderful hosts for all their hard work.

Now the Drayton Twinning Group will start to plan how we might best entertain our hosts on their return visit to Drayton in 2005 – any suggestions will be most welcome. **If you would like to join the Twinning Group** or learn more about its activities just ring Michael Bell on (01235) 531388.



(Michael is invested with L'Ordre Medulian)

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **October Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, September 24th**, from **Margaret Armstrong, 1, Crabtree Lane, (531122)**, 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 placed in the Chronicle letter box, which is outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

**NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, September 13th 2004.**

After this deadline, only items of the utmost urgency may be considered for inclusion (NB No guarantees!).

NB :- **Can we politely remind** Contributors that the above **deadline** is exactly that; there seems to be a trend (with increasing use of e-mail) that sending items on Monday evening, or during Tuesday, (or even later!) is ok. It isn't - editors are busy people, and continually receiving items through the week greatly reduces the time for editing, queries, formatting, printing etc. Is it so very difficult to note the above date, and prepare items by then - not start them?

Editors clear the box from time to time before the deadline. It is a great help when items can be left in the box a few days before the closing date. Some contributors are indeed doing just that, and it really does help. Thank you.

## NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

All contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Be sure to include the name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number of the author. Contributions can be made :-

- If you've Internet access, by **email** to the relevant editor :-

Derek Pooley	<a href="mailto:derek_pooley@talk21.com">derek_pooley@talk21.com</a>
Geoffrey Long	<a href="mailto:geoff.long@talk21.com">geoff.long@talk21.com</a>
Tony Holmes	<a href="mailto:tony-holmes@ntlworld.com">tony-holmes@ntlworld.com</a>

Please remember to check that you soon get a confirmation reply.

- A 3½" **disk**, in PC format, preferably 'Saved As' WORD. **Please include hard copy** for checking the formatting and **your address** so that the disk can be easily returned. This is STILL an excellent way to receive copy since it removes much of the work necessary in 3 & 4 below, AND should help to eliminate misprints/errors.

- A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller. The scanner can read in typescripts and this is still much easier than re-typing. IF you prepare text on a PC to print the output and send it to us, thanks, BUT PLEASE SEE 2 above - we do return disks, honest!

- Finally, **hand-written items**. It helps if all names of people and places are spelt out in **CAPITALS** (thanks to those who do), thus saving mistakes and possible embarrassment. **You KNOW** who you're writing about, but please **don't assume** we do too!

## ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/10th page)		Small Advert		
Advertiser Category:	---- Number of Inserts ----			per word
	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£4.00	£10.50	£21.50	£40.00
Non-Drayton Resident	£5.00	£13.50	£27.00	£50.00

Half-size block adverts are charged at half the above rates.

All requests **MUST** be accompanied by **cash or a cheque** made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' (as we don't wish to waste time and effort trying to obtain them later!!!)

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 Ab. 531597 to discuss requirements.

# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

## RESULTS OF THE AUGUST LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	1858	Miss Stokes, 102a W'horris Way	Terry Arnold
£20	1468	Mrs Gardner, 2 Haywards Road	Judith Dunster
£15	1087	B Winter, 6 Gravel Lane	Sheila Cook
£10	0270	Mr Messenger, Highfield, Ab'don Rd	Gerald Redman
£10	2550	L Vickery, 5 The Green	Lawrence Vickery
£10	1750	J Hyde, c/o 28 Lockway	Barbara Carter
£10	2265	W Perris, 58 Lyford Close	Freda Palmer (*)
£10	0666	Miss Willis-Dixon, 48 Henleys Lane	Angela Painton
£10	1035	Sandra Woolhead, 4 Halls Close	Mary Alexander
£10	1578	F Bray, Highfields, Steventon Hill	Sarah Church

Winners were drawn by staff at the Mace shop, from 2170 tickets sold. \* Special mention - WELL DONE - here for Gerald Redman, who is subbing for agent Freda Palmer while she's recovering from an operation, as well as doing his own agent's round!

## THE FOLLOWING THREE MONTHS

Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs by Monday:-	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:-
November	18 October 2004	29 October 2004
December	22 November 2004	03 December 2004
Jan/Feb-05	10 January 2005	21 January 2005

## GEOFF AND MARIAN'S

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## ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON WIVES

Margaret Long

Jean Taylor once again waved her magic wand over her garden and we enjoyed another fine, warm summer evening for our Jacob's Join on July 27th. The food we share is always marvellous but this year's was particularly sumptuous and we did full justice to it. As always, thank you, Jean.

Our summer outing on **Tuesday August 31st**, is to be at Friars Court, near Clanfield, where we shall enjoy a tour of the farm in a covered trailer followed by a cream tea. The price of this is £8 and we need to arrive at Friars Court by 2:30 pm. Georgie Logan can give you any further information re transport, etc.

At a recent coffee morning and after some discussion, it was agreed that we should **change to an afternoon meeting in 2005** and the best day seemed to be a **Wednesday** afternoon. It was also felt that the Wives should change direction somewhat and become more involved in social activities. **We do need your ideas and suggestions, please.**

#### Dates for your diary in September: -

Mon 6th	10.30	COFFEE	Mary Alexander
Mon 20th	7.15	WHIST	Pat Hoyland Caudwell D.C
Tues 28th	7.30	MEETING 'Antiques'	Elaine Binning

**Bring articles** for our speaker to talk about. . No Valuations!

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### The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

The branch extends best wishes to the Revd Dorothy Derrick and John on their leaving the village, and trusts they will enjoy a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Special thanks from Pearl and David Stanbridge for the help and support from Dorothy over the years. We shall miss you.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday 20 Sept at 8pm.

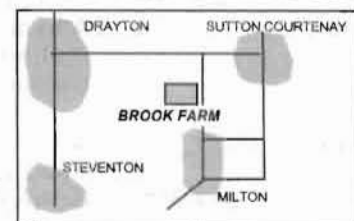
### MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

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

### HAVE YOU TRIED OUR FREE RANGE EGGS?



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NEW OPENING HOURS..... Mon to Sat 9.00 am to 1.00pm,  
Except Friday.....9.00am to 6.00pm

**FREE RANGE EGGS, & POTATOES (if available)**

*Our own lamb available May to December*

### DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

October may seem far off at the moment but our Autumn production of 'Music Hall Nights' will soon be upon us.

We will be celebrating **forty years** of Drayton Players in song and dance, including some who were performing in the very first days of the group, and some junior members with us for the very first time.

Intensive rehearsals are the order of the day now, and we hope that in October you will come along and join us in the fun - and in some of the singing!

Performances, in Drayton Hall, October 21st, 22nd and 23rd (Thurs to Sat) at 7.30pm; all ticket enquiries should be made to Sue Stevens (200350). **Bring the whole family along** for a great evening's entertainment.

**Don't forget my plea** last month for some **young men** to join us for our February musical. We have had some response, which is encouraging, but **there's still room** to swell the ranks of the Roman Legion! **Take the plunge** - or the shield & spear - and call Richard Webber (534001 or 523374) for the interesting details.

# 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 Sue Harris .....848361  
Mr Peter Cline .....530519

**Organist & Choirmaster :-** Mr Adrian Thompson ... 01865 714801

## CHURCH NOTICES

### REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (CW Traditional).  
10.00 am Sung Eucharist (CW) except 2nd Sunday, when a non-Eucharistic Family Service is held.

6.00 pm Evening Prayer (CW).

Mon-Fri 8.15 am Morning Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel

Weds 10.30 am Parents' & Toddlers' Service - Church Room

Weds 6.00 pm Evening Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel

Thursday 9.30 am Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Sunday Pebbles & Rocks	Church Room
Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Friday	7.00 pm	Choir Practice (every 2nd Fri)	Church Room

### CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

Sat	4th	3.00 pm	Wedding :- Mark Atherton/Rebecca Smith
Sun	5th		Dorothy Derrick's final Sunday Services
Tues	7th	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections Church Room
Sun	12th	11.15 am	Sale of Fairly Traded goods

### PARISH REGISTER

<b>Marriage</b>	July 24th	<b>Brian Dunn &amp; Sharon Gleed</b>
	Aug 14th	<b>Darren Drysdale &amp; Amanda Vause</b>
	Aug 21st	<b>Richard Davis &amp; Catherine Russell</b>
<b>Funeral</b>	July 15th	<b>Arthur Viner</b>
		<b>Revd John Loveland</b>
	July 28th	<b>Bryan William Gibson</b>

### YOU STAY - WE PRAY

During this month we will pray for all the people who live and work in these roads:- 22 Aug - 4 Sept :- Abingdon Rd, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Haywards Rd; 5 - 11 Sept :- Sutton Wick Lane, Greenacres, Newman lane, Conifer Drive; 12 - 25 Sept :- Hilliat Fields, Lyford Close, Manor Close, The Green; 26 Sept - 2 Oct :- High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close.

*Margaret* welcomes you to

**Sabina's** for your next hair appointment

**40 ABINGDON ROAD - DRAYTON - Tel. (01235) 531140**

Mondays & Tuesdays & Saturdays 9.00 am to 5.00 pm  
Wednesday closed all day  
Thursdays 9.00am to 6.00 pm, Fridays 9.00 am to 7.00 pm

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## Letter from The Revd Dorothy Derrick

Dear Friends,

I have just returned from a few days holiday on the South Pembrokeshire Coast. We were blessed with wonderful sunshine and glorious hours for walking the coastal path. The beauty of the blue sky and glistening sea was awesome. The cliff path was skirted with the purple heather and sun bright golden gorse - so much glory and peace. Yet on one of our walks as we drank in the beauty and peace we only needed to take a few paces towards the cliff top to lean over and see and hear the turmoil of the surf crashing below with great power and eroding the cliffs into arches and stacks. Having returned to the path we looked inland over the M.O.D. range to see tanks and armoured cars which are obviously bombarded during army training and manoeuvres.

I was reminded that life is a bit like that. Some of the time in our journey of life we walk in tranquillity; sometimes we are battered by the trials of life before we can return to easier paths; sometimes we ourselves decide to get involved in wrong things and need to be rescued and brought back to the right path.

This also applies to our faith journey. There are times when we see clearly and follow the path that God has set before us. There are times when we allow ourselves to be led astray. There are times when we decide that God is irrelevant and we need to find the way back.

Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life." (John 14 : 6). It is good to remember that we are called to follow him. It is good to remember that although we follow he has promised to walk with us on the way. It is also good to remember that we walk the way with others. We are fellow pilgrims on the road.

\*\*\*\*\* As this will be my last letter to you, I would like to thank you for welcoming us both into this, your community of Drayton. It has been a privilege for me to serve as your Parish priest. To be given the care of a parish, as happens with the Church of England, is an awesome task. I am conscious that I have not touched as many lives as I might have done. I am also conscious that I have been blessed to share on a deep level with those who have lost loved ones during the six and a half years that I have been here and I would like to thank you for that. When we leave for Carlisle in September we shall be seeking God's way for us in our retirement. This is both exciting and daunting, but we put our trust in the Lord.

I am delighted that the Revd. Sister Josie Midwinter has been appointed as my successor. She will be coming to Drayton from Didcot in February 2005. I trust you will welcome her as you welcomed me. I am sure she will serve you faithfully.

Yours prayerfully,

*Dorothy Derrick*

### ST PETER'S CHURCH HOME-VISITING GROUP

will visit anyone who is, or has been, ill or is recently home from hospital, or unable to get out because of a disability, or is in any other circumstances where support would be welcomed.

Please contact:- Neen Priestnall (531330), Jean Hager (531558), Sally Dixon (531547) or Jackie Walker (522361).

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

### Drayton TODDLER GROUP Anna Loughlin

Drayton Toddlers have been busy playing and singing each Thursday morning during the summer holiday period.

The **Tuesday session will re-open on September 7** (9.30am - 11.30am) and all newcomers will be made most welcome!

The Toddler Fun-day will take place on **Tuesday September 14** (2pm - 4.30pm). **Please come along to support us.** The Tempest Photographic Agency will be there to take a **lovely photograph** of your children.

Come and sample some tasty treats, and browse children's clothing and bookstalls while the children have fun on the bouncy castle!

Finally, congratulations to everyone who supported the Barnardo's Toddle. The final amount raised for Barnardos was a whopping £140. Thanks especially to Mr Polley (Jade's Dad), who raised the fantastic sum of £82.

See you all in September!



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### DRAYTON READING GROUP Andrew Bax

Do you enjoy a good read? If you do you probably enjoy talking about books with people who have read the same ones. That is what we do in The Reading Group. We meet once a month in each other's homes and **share our different reactions** in relaxed and stimulating discussion. We have also found that a glass of wine can add to the pleasure.

The Reading Group only began in April but so far we have covered: *Touching the Void* by Joe Simpson, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon, *The Bookseller of Kabul* by Asne Seierstad, *Frankie & Stankie* by Barbara Trapido and *Cold Comfort Farm* by Stella Gibbons. Those next on the list are *When we were Orphans* by Kazuo Ishiguro and *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck.

We can accommodate a few more members so if you would like to know more, give me a ring on 531512.

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### Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club Andrew Gould

If you belong to a club, take this advice. Always attend the club meetings!! I didn't. That is why I have been handed the pen, and for this season I will be writing Chronicle entries for Drayton Table Tennis Clubs.

Firstly I would like to thank Ann, for allowing both club meetings to be held at the Wheatsheaf, I hear that the food and drink was excellent!

Thank you also to Ray Massie and Oxford Fireplace Centre for sponsoring this year's club trip to Weymouth. It was a great day out, enjoyed by all.

To the parents of children who decided to brave the English Channel, and go for a swim...fully clothed, I apologise. Though I feel it a little unfair to pass all of the blame onto me.

If you were unable to attend the trip, you missed a great day. Don't worry though; I hear that both a skittles night and also a quiz night are being planned, hopefully to be held before Christmas. I will keep you posted.

Drayton has entered 5 teams in the Didcot league this season.

Roger Perry will be captain of the 'A' team.

John Gould is looking after the 'B' team.

The 'C' team will be captained by Andrew Cudden.

Ray Stocker is captaining the 'D' team.

Beverley Rayner, with a little help from myself, will take care of the 'E' team.

**Senior practice re-starts on Monday 6th September.** New players are welcome, if you are interested give John a call on 01235 531328, alternatively just turn up at Drayton School at 8.00pm.

**Junior practice will start on Monday the 13th of September.** If you are between 9 and fourteen, come along between 7:00 and 8:30pm and **have some fun!**

Enjoy the rest of the summer; I look forward to seeing you all for the start of the new season.



## CLOCK REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

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### DRAYTON W.I.

### Gwen Price

The rain held off and we were able to enjoy a visit to members' gardens. It was lovely to see the different styles of each one. This was followed by a supper at the day centre.

We were pleased to welcome a previous member, Bemice Morgan, who was on a visit from Carmarthen.

The title of our meeting in September is Colour Me Beautiful.

Don't forget to get your entries in for our **Cook Sew and Grow Show** on 11th September. Schedules can be had from local shops.

#### Letters to the Editor

The Editor reserves the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter. Each letter must bear a legible name & address, and Tel. No if any,

# BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTORAL Co-Ordinator:- Roy Brown.....531296

Home Visitor:- Mrs Norma Russell.....531655

## REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

- 11.30 am Presently only one morning service per month; this is the Family Service, and is on the first Sunday of each month.
- 6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service, frequently with guest speakers.  
(Communion every second Sunday)

## EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

If anyone would like to come to church, and feels they do not want to come for the first time on their own, then we can arrange for one of the congregation to accompany you – Please ring Mrs Norma Russell on 531655.

Come and join us every Sunday – we look forward to seeing you.

Next Family Service is 5th of Sept 11.30 am, leading the service Janet Strong.

## Max Smith (1912 – 2004)

We said a fond farewell to dear Max, who was a member of the Drayton Baptist Church. The Church was full and needed extra chairs to seat everyone. It was a celebration of her life; the service flowed with a peace and grace, reflecting Max's nature. It's sad to say goodbye, but when you are at a funeral of someone who has been a Christian for most of their life and their faith has been at the top of the list, there is a very different feeling to the service. There is a strength and peace that can not go unnoticed. She will be missed dreadfully! But has only gone to the loving arms of Jesus Christ.

Larry Kavanagh led the service and spoke, with such conviction in his voice, of her faith. There were lots of Max's favourite hymns. Kathy Kavanagh and Marion Pengelly Phillips sang a duo. The Lord's my shepherd, 23 Psalm. David Waghorn read from the Gospel of John (Ch 3:1-8 & 16-21) and prayers led by Bob Pengelly Phillips. Our dear friend Rev Dorothy Derrick took part in the service too.

Max Smith has been in Drayton for as long as I can remember. Thirty years or so at Hilliat Fields with her family and only had to move from there because her house was bulldozed to make way for Lyford Close to be built. So she and the family moved to a bungalow in Cornneville Rd where she has been for the last twenty years.

Max was always known for her wonderful cakes that she made. She was always found in the kitchen when help was needed, like the Drayton Bazaar and the help she gave to the late Mrs Morse in the Woman's Fellowship. Years ago our Baptist church used to have students from Regent Park, Bible College, Oxford, helping us with many services, as this would help them in their training. They would come from Oxford and more than likely stay in Drayton for the day.

Mrs Smith would give them a warm welcome at her home. They would stay for dinner and high tea, and if you have ever been to one of Max's high teas you were in for a real treat. Well! It was a table full of so many goodies, cakes, scones, Victoria sponge cake, and lots of different sandwiches. You would literally take a step back and hold your breath and stand with your mouth open wide at the feast set before you. It must have taken hours and hours to cook and prepare if not days, but it was her way of serving God in the way she knew best.

I'm sure every student pastor that ever came will never forget, her unselfish generosity and the real feeling of being in a homely environment for the day, must have helped them. As they would be missing their own homes and family while training. I'd like to think that when Max got to the gates of heaven, God would say, sit down have a cuppa and a nice piece of cake you've done well.

In the past three years her health became poor but her daughter Ira looked after her at home, and more recently her other daughter Pam came up from Worthing, to help in the care of their mother.

I must just mention the courage Max showed after having her leg amputated at the John Radcliffe Hospital, due to diabetic gangrene. Her faith really shone out in her recovery at Abingdon Hospital, in never complaining or asking WHY me! She just accepted everything with such grace. Many people will always remember Max by her charming warm smile, which never left her.

*Janet Strong*

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

A warm welcome to Alex Tull who has moved into Church Lane from Reading.

A very warm welcome to Andrew and Michele Ainscough and their daughters Hannah and Ciara who have just moved into Cheers Farm.

And also to Mark and Barbara Richards - recent newcomers to the High Street. Welcome to Drayton and every happiness in your new homes.

Please extend a warm welcome to Tessa Goldblatt and Steve Fletcher who have moved into Greenacres.

Welcome to John and Rachel Willis who have moved into Abingdon Road.

Farewell to Brian Stroud who has moved to Essex.

Phil, Jayne, Sam and George Davis have moved into Bay Tree House from Faringdon - Welcome.

& to Karen, Ian, Jack and Lindsay Barnett who have moved into Abingdon Road, all the way from Barry in South Wales.

## ARE YOU IN THE DARK ?

If your streetlight isn't working, or wastes resources by being on in the daytime, then PLEASE report it on the County Council hotline (free) 0800 317802 - help them by giving the town, road, and if possible the number on the post, or failing that the nearest house.

## BINGO SESSIONS

are held in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane, Drayton  
WEEKLY on WEDNESDAYS at 7.30 pm

## YOUR LETTERS

### Now there's a thing?!

Dear Sir,

Steventon Road

We've just returned from a few days holiday in Lynton and Lynmouth. Apart from the absolute beauty and serenity of the scenery, we also enjoyed the display of scarecrows which had sprung up in gardens, shops, pubs and every nook and cranny.

**They were fantastic.**

There was a tramp (whose pock-marked face was made of sponge), with a cigarette hanging from his mouth and a robin on his shoulder outside the village hall. A nurse holding a (plastic) syringe outside the nursing home. Old people on benches, a postman on the Post Office roof, a chef on a table outside the pub and a witch who had failed to stop was splayed on the garage door together with her cat. One of the best was a lady knitting – behind her was a sheep and she was knitting with wool straight from its back.

The whole village, or two villages, had become very competitive. There was an entrance fee and a prize for the best scarecrow. The entrance fees went to charity.

How about Drayton doing the same thing next August? There could be table tennis players, footballers, dancers, school children and teachers, nurses, shopkeepers, bin men, etc. Children, parents, pubs, the Damascus group, etc. could all get involved. Scarecrows can be as simple or as sophisticated as you want them to be. They are easy to make – old newspapers, old clothes, hats, shoes, straw, tights for heads, arms and legs. If it's anything like building sand castles the adults will become as competitive as the children. We could have a map of where the scarecrows are displayed.

Shall we go for it?!

Judy Henman



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### Grateful Thanks

Dear Sir,

13 Comeville Road

On behalf of myself, my sister, and all the family, may I thank everyone for all their kind words of comfort during our recent bereavement. Our mother, Max Smith, was clearly well-liked and loved judging by the number of cards we received.

We also appreciate all the contributions made to two of her favourite charities:- Abingdon Community Hospital and Christian Aid.

Please accept this as a heartfelt thank you from all the family.

Yours Faithfully

Eira Smith



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### Fireworks Regulations 2004 - 7 August 2004

On 7 August 2004 the Fireworks Regulations 2004 (SI 2004 /1836) came into force (except for reg. 9 - Licensing of Fireworks Suppliers and reg. 11 - Importation of Fireworks - which come into force on 1st January 2005).

The provisions of these new Regulations include **prohibition of persons under 18 years from possessing adult fireworks** in public places, restrictions on the use of adult fireworks between **11pm and 7am** except at New Year's Eve, Chinese New Year, or Diwali (until 1am) and on 5th November (until midnight); **also a prohibition on the supply of excessively loud fireworks (120 decibel).**

In view of the exceptional public annoyance at anti-social use of fireworks, **people should be aware** that the police intend to be pro-active in applying the penalties for illegal usage, and supply, as necessary.

## YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

### Massive Expansion Plans in Oxfordshire

When the South Oxfordshire District Council approved planning permission for the Didcot extension, some of the proposed dwellings trespassed on Vale of White Horse District land. Now Oxford City Council is at it! A proposal has been made by OCC to develop a strategic development area (SDA) of an extra 25,000 houses between Oxford through to Harwell. Most of the development would be in the Vale, and much of it on green belt land. What is behind their action – money. Grants would go chiefly to the Labour led OCC. A motion at the Vale Full Council to reject this proposal by Oxford City Council was supported by the Lib Dems and only two conservatives. This issue is of serious concern because if the SDA is approved at the unelected South East England Regional Authority it will have very serious implications on all people living in the Oxford to Harwell band and surrounding areas. There is a need for further dwellings in the area and this is being managed under effective control; to cater for another 25,000 houses with all the infrastructure problems I believe will bring chaos to the district. It was a shame the majority of Conservatives did not attend this important discussion which will have serious implications for a massive swathe of Vale communities.

### Wind Farms Cause A Storm

Planning permission for wind farms (and other renewable energy sources) will be easier to obtain as a result of new guidance to local authorities from John Prescott, the deputy Prime Minister. These guidelines issued in August, are indeed instructions to local authorities, such as the Vale of White Horse District Council. Large wind farms can be allowed right up to the boundary of National Parks and small scale developments should be permitted within such areas as national parks, areas of national beauty and heritage coasts, provided there is no significant environmental detriment to the area concerned.

Many protestors argue that wind farms are a scar on the landscape, that wind is not a reliable technology and does not produce the energy its supporters claim. The government has told local councillors to ignore such protests and instructs local authorities to work on the basis that the renewables are a necessary part of reaching the government's climate change targets.

It is currently taking nearly 12 months on average for wind farm planning applications to be determined, so this new edict will reduce decision time. The Vale already has a planning application for a wind farm at Watchfield in the west of the district. This was for five windmills and the decision included conditions over landscape and noise emissions. It took many months of listening to arguments for and against, before a decision was reached.

Before the five turbines were erected a planning application was lodged to substitute these by more sophisticated machines (the number remains unchanged). From memory these were slightly taller windmills, but with a slower speed. Decision on the application was delayed for legal reason, (protestors taking legal action against the Vale, communications between the council and the government.) Fed up with the delays, the applicants decided to proceed with the original plan. I can't say I blame them!

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### Yellow Pages

Just a reminder that the old books should not be put into black waste sacks but should be taken to **special re-cycling Banks**. The nearest are the Drayton 'tip' by the bridge and at Tesco. The Yellow Pages banks will be available in August and September and are financed by a £1,500 grant from the company.

### Abingdon Rowing club

Previously, in my attempt to encourage local organisations to apply for grants, I did mention some money had been made available to promote the local rowing club. Look out for a coxless four boat named 'White Horse' due to be launched on September 12th.

### Latest on the Old Gaol

The Vale has reached the next stage where the business plan and lottery application are being reviewed by external project consultants. This is to ensure the overall Plan gets a second opinion to confirm its viability before a formal approach is made for funding from the Heritage Lottery fund. This will help ensure the Vale can obtain the largest possible grant.

### And finally

The next Surgery will be held at 9.00am at the Village Hall on Saturday 4th September. I look forward to meeting any Drayton residents who wish to come along and discuss their concerns.

Regards

Grahame Ash

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## PARISH COUNCIL (meeting Aug 2)

Three parishioners turned up to contribute to the debate on traffic calming and the state of our roads and pavements for 'mobility scooters'. The relatively uneventful meeting reflected the absence of concern about where the 40,000 homes planned for the County might be built that the Parish council has no part to play in the issue. OK, so nobody on the parish council thought it would really happen, and that this is scare-mongering by people in Oxford or Guildford. But there may be some fire behind the smoke-signal that the area between Oxford and Didcot would be the best place to meet the need for the Oxfordshire contribution to housing land requirements in the South East.

Find or draw a map of south Oxfordshire. All the land between Oxford and Abingdon is Green Belt. Much of the land between Abingdon and Didcot is where we live. It doesn't have to be 40,000 houses to make Drayton a likely target for housing promoted speculatively or through the planning process. The Structure Plan and Local Plan that are currently being approved make no mention of this possibility. However, these plans incorporate the planners' view of housing supply and the environment (down from John Prescott) rather than the Treasury view of what is reasonably necessary for economic reasons (from Gordon Brown). There are problems, in that the A34 would become even more congested and the Ock Steet/Drayton Road junction would have to be grade separated. However, the idea seems to be that if we (the Local Councils) embrace the idea of growth we could benefit from improved infrastructure and services that would otherwise be overrun by development that would happen in any event and in an unplanned way.

Did you know that most of the development of Grove was an alternative to a proposal to build a Drayton / Sutton Courtenay / Steventon / Milton new town? Although most of the new housing in the VWH is still planned for Grove, this may not be enough, and the original scheme may be back on the drawing board.

Did you know that the 'Drayton Division' will be no more, and Drayton will be part of an Abingdon ward in the make up of the County Council. If this will make it more difficult for Drayton village to get its distinctive voice heard then this may be very convenient for those who regard it as part of the Abingdon/Didcot suburban sprawl.

Other business was discussed at the meeting, including the replacement of swings and safety flooring at the Lock Way playground and the appointment of a new clerk.

It would be wrong to say that your voice at parish meetings or even on the Parish Council would make it more or less likely that Drayton will join up with either or both Abingdon or Didcot. However, it may true to say that local opinion can have an influence over the least worst places to build and what services and facilities would be required.

Anybody who has opinions on the above, or other ideas, should come to a meeting of the PC (usually the first Monday - Sept 6th - 7.45 pm at the Caudwell Day Centre). *Daniel Scharf*

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## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

If you are feeling **lonely, isolated or in need of company** for whatever reason, you are warmly invited to come along to our drop-in tea and chat afternoon held monthly, at St. Peter's Church Room, on the first Tuesday.

In spite of the really awful weather, our August meeting was well attended and the torrential rain and thunder had difficulty competing with the noise level of our friendly conversation in St. Peter's Church Room.

Our next two dates are 7th September and 5th October, (which is our second anniversary), and we extend a very warm welcome to old friends and new for a cuppa, good company and sympathetic conversation.

Drop in anytime between 3 pm. and 4.30 pm. If you would like further information or need transport please call me (Jean Hager) on 531558.

Mrs Suzy Willis

MCSP SRP

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## More Traffic

After the interesting text in last month's Chronicle, highlighting that rush-hour traffic needs little speed control due to the congestion, and that issue's editor Derek Pooley putting his point of view, here's my personal opinion. It may well be influenced by many years of driving over 20,000 miles a year, mostly on main A- roads and motorways.

We seem to have two points of view being expressed, with little understanding of common ground.

There are opinions that we have a dangerous roads problem, with masses of selfish speeding drivers taking every opportunity to exceed speed limits and drive recklessly. To many motorists, such people as believe this version of events would want every car preceded by a man with a red flag, as in the earliest days of motoring.

There are several reasons why many motorists do not respect present speed limits. One is that a few years ago, in many counties, certainly including Oxon, lots of roads had their existing limit cut by 10, 20 or 30mph, for no apparent reason other than local councils and police discovering what a lot of extra funding could be obtained from motorists' pockets. A host of letters have appeared in the national press, from all over the country, expressing this point.

One local piece of road that is commonly believed to be an example of this would be that between Drayton and Steventon.

Further evidence would be the odd location of many speed cameras. Between Henley and Wallingford is a most dangerous road, the location of a number of fatal accidents in recent years. And the nearest speed camera is . . . on a right-angled bend in Nettlebed, completely useless. Why is there a speed camera by Hartwells, on a short piece of road between two roundabouts? You'd think Saxton Road, or maybe Hilliatt Fields or Whitehorns Way, would make more use of one if safety was really on the authorities' minds?

A third reason is that the braking distances often quoted in relation to speed are now completely out of date, modern cars are easier to control and have much better braking than before.

Those who would say, any vehicle can be a killer, and would flood Drayton with speed bumps (they could see what they've done for Kennington) might like to consider recent news from Reading, where the bus drivers threatened to go on strike unless many of them were removed again – they are causing bus (and other professional) drivers to suffer back injuries.

A further problem with speed bumps is the extra pollution caused by cars slowing, then accelerating again.

As I've expressed before, I think the speed detector sign is most effective, illuminating in front of speeding drivers, giving a large 'SLOW DOWN' with a reminder of what the limit is.

They work well up at Botley on the A34, we could have one at each entrance to Drayton.

Having said that, as a motorist and occasional pedestrian, I don't think Drayton has a major problem; the most likely time I've noticed for cars to really speed through the village is late at night. If crossing the road is really a problem at certain times – perhaps a couple of pedestrian crossings, near the Green and the Mace shop, would help reassure people?

Any speed bumps would need to be the 'stud' shaped ones, so that buses and emergency vehicles would be least obstructed, and it may be an idea to have one or two in Hilliatt Fields and Whitehorns Way, as they have children at risk?

*Tony Holmes*

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## Drayton School

## Claire Soper

This month's report is mainly about saying WELCOME! Firstly WELCOME BACK ! Hopefully everyone has benefited from their summer holiday, pupils, parents and staff alike, and are suitably refreshed and ready for action.

At the end of the Summer Term we said some very sad farewells to various teaching and support staff, plus Year 6 pupils who have moved on to Secondary School, we wish them every success for the future all will be welcome to visit their old friends at Drayton.

This new school year gives me an opportunity to welcome all our new pupils and staff. In the Reception Class "hello" to: Annie, Ben, Brandon, Ellie, Emma, Hannah, James Evans, James Hedditch, Joshua, Leah, Lewis and Lucy.

Also welcome and "hello" to Connor and Keeley who have moved to Drayton from Sutton Courtenay and welcome back to George, Leo and Lewis after a spell at Thameside in Abingdon.

We hope you all settle into your new classes and make lots of friends.

A BIG WELCOME is extended to our new teaching staff in the Lower Unit. Miss Jodie Stenzhorn joins the Reception/Year 1 Class and Mrs Kathy Raven will be the new Year1/Year 2 teacher. Mrs Beverley Rayner needs no introduction in school but a welcome to the Lower Unit where she will be supporting Miss Stenzhorn as the Reception Teaching Assistant.

F.O.D.S.A. can report on two successful fundraising events last term. Firstly the Treasure Hunt on 4th July raised £70! In spite of it not being planned as a major event. Thanks to Colin Arnold for organising this so well.

The end of term Leavers Party on the 16th July raised approx £240! Again thanks to everyone who supported this.

Two future diary dates are: FRIDAY 24th Sept FAMILY BINGO & FRIDAY 15th Oct FAMILY DISCO - both events will be held in school at 7pm.

ALUMINIUM RECYCLING!!!!!! School benefits financially from the collection of aluminium waste at Vickeries shop. Please remember to save your drink cans and foil separately.

To check whether a can is aluminium, you can use a magnet; the aluminium will not stick to it. This is important as we lose money if cans are mixed up.

Also please DO NOT include foil crisp packets, pill containers or yoghurt lids where the plastic film peels off.

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTS THIS RECYCLING SCHEME AND ESPECIALLY TO LAWRENCE AND DEBBIE.

# NOTICE BOARD

## The DAMASCUS Youth Project

*From new chairman Brigadier Nick Thompson CBE*

The funding grant for this project should enable it to continue for another year all being well, and Parish Councils and PCCs have invested in this important youth initiative so it is in everyone's interest to continue to make it a success. Decisions about future funding will be taken soon. The sad death of the Chairman, Dr Ian Spalding, has meant that a new Chairman has had to be found and I have agreed to stand in. The Committee has been drawn almost entirely from Sutton Courtenay until now, and I with Angus Jordan from Stevenon will provide a balance, but we still urgently need representation from Milton, Appleford and Drayton on the Management Committee.

The various youth initiatives, including motor bike maintenance, and in particular the Youth Bus project will continue, but the Bus cannot visit villages unless there is support from within the villages themselves in the form of **volunteers to man the Bus**. In Milton Heights the regular visits by the Youth Bus have been very successful and popular. Volunteering involves giving one evening (a couple of hours) each week by a few committed adults.

**Please take an interest** in the future of our communities by becoming involved. **Parents** can probably provide the most effective oversight of these young people. Please contact Caroline Grundy 01235 848679 or Rita Atkinson 01235 848694 if you can help.

### YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS :-

Parish (Chairman)	Paul Knight (531678);
District (VofWH)	Grahame Ash (831622);
& Oxfordshire County	Margaret Mackenzie (847341).

### OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

#### Methodist Chapel

High Street, Milton, (near the Post Office)  
Sunday Service: 10.30 am  
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

## CHARITY COFFEE MORNING

Drayton WI are holding a Coffee Morning on Sat October 2nd in the Caudwell Day Centre between 10.30 and noon. There will be a Sales Table.

Enjoy a Cake with your Coffee.

Proceeds to P.A.C.E.

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Abingdon (3rd Monday) - Sept 20, Oct 18

Didcot (2nd Sat) - Sept 11, Oct 9

Newbury (1st Sunday) - Sept 5, Oct 3

Oxford (1st Thursday) - Sept 2, Oct 7

Reading (1st & 3rd Sats) - Sept 4/18, Oct 2/16

Wantage (last Sat) - Sept 25, Oct 30

TVFM news - ring 0870 241 4762 - website [Tvmf.org.uk](http://Tvmf.org.uk)

# DRAYTON DIARIES

## DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

To book Drayton Hall ring 531501 To call the Hall ring 528686

NB	If your event isn't listed, IT COULD HAVE BEEN!!!		
Sat 4	9.00am	District Councillor 'Surgery'	
Mon 6	7.45pm	Parish Council Meeting	Caudwell DC
Tues 7	3.00pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Fri 10		Grow Cook & Sew Show (WI) - prepare	
Sat 11		Grow Cook & Sew Show (WI)	
Sun 12	11.15am	Fair-Trade sale (after service)	St Peter's
Mon 13	5.00pm	<b>CHRONICLE DEADLINE</b>	Vickery's
Mon 20	8.00pm	Hall Committee	Lounge
Fri 24	7.30pm	BINGO (FODSA)	School
Sat 25		Barn Dance (tickets call 523540)	



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## GROW, COOK & SEW

Saturday 11th September 2004

in Drayton Village Hall at 2.30 pm

Entrance at door 30p

(Accompanied children free)

Remember last entries by 8th September 2004

Organised by Drayton W.I.

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
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	Small Hall
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Youth Club (until 9.30)	Small Hall
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	School
7.45 pm	Parish Council Meeting (1st Mon? - see report)	CDC
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	St Peter's Church

### TUESDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	Caudwell Day Centre
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)	

### WEDNESDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
10.30 am	Parent and Toddler Service	Church Room
2.00 pm	Whist - now each week	Caudwell Day Centre
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.00 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

### THURSDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
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)	Haywards Rd
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 (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday in month)	School
7.45 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing	
8.00 pm	Wilt/Berks Canal Group (3rd Thursday)	Caudwell DC

### FRIDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
11.00 am	The Friday Club (to 3.30) 202466	Caudwell Day Centre
7.00 pm	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
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	St Peter's

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Printed by Oliver & Son, Printers, 11a West Way, Botley, Oxford.