

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Geoffrey Long

Volume 27, No. 9

October 2004

DOROTHY AND JOHN DERRICK LEAVE DRAYTON

By Peter Cline, Churchwarden

The headline across the top of the August edition of the Chronicle read 'The Derrick Era Draws To A Close' and now, sadly, it has closed.

Dorothy and John Derrick have retired and we wish them every happiness and a long and healthy time together in Carlisle where they will be much closer to both arms of their family in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

They may be gone but they are certainly not forgotten. Dorothy and John did so much for all sections of the Drayton community that I would be surprised if anyone in Drayton will not notice the enormous hole that they will leave in our lives.

It is, perhaps, not insignificant that the number of couples asking Dorothy to marry them before she retired was several times the norm. I know because my new wife, Mary, and I were one of them!

Dorothy's final Sunday services were on 5th September and there were over a hundred people in church for the 10 o'clock Eucharist. It was a wonderful bright morning but it was tinged with sadness, not so much because it was Dorothy's final Sunday, but because of the news that had just broken of the massacre at the Russian school and Dorothy felt she had to amend her sermon to record the deep shock and compassion that she felt at man's inhumanity to man.

It was an emotional time but Dorothy coped admirably and made a point of spending extra time wishing everyone well and spending a little longer as the congregation said their 'Goodbyes' in the church porch.



As always, Dorothy was ably supported by her husband, John, who was always there, quietly and efficiently supporting and helping to ensure that everything went smoothly. He, too, will be sadly missed and we feel it will probably take at least four people to cover the list of all the jobs he regularly undertook around the church, churchyards and Almshouses.

The weather wasn't so bright on Saturday 11th September, but the rain kept off and our spirits were not dampened as we prepared for Dorothy's service of Celebration and Farewell. Her theme, reflected in the first hymn was 'The Lord has done great things for me, Holy is his name!'

During the afternoon, the bell ringers rang a quarter-peal in honour of John's years of unstinting support as a loyal and steady ringers.



The bell ringers rang again just prior to the service whilst the congregation came in and kept coming in. There wasn't a spare seat in the church. What a joy and how appropriate that so many people should turn out to wish Dorothy and John farewell!

The service consisted of a wonderful selection of Dorothy's favourite hymns with the service in between these hymns being devoted to each of the five Ministry Groups – Healing, Care, Prayer, Worship and Discipleship. Each group leader read an appropriate Bible reading and members of each group offered up symbols relevant to each group's function.

The service continued with prayers including a 'Praying Farewell' where Dorothy and John prayed for the congregation and then the congregation reciprocated. *Continued on page 98*



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COMING CHRONICLES

The **November Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 29 October 2004** from **Margaret Armstrong, 1, Crabtree Lane, Tel 531122**, who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Derek Pooley, 11 Halls Close, Tel. 559454**. Contributions should be placed in the Chronicle letterbox, which is outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

no later than 5.15 pm on Monday, 18 October 2004.

After this deadline, only items of the utmost urgency may be considered for inclusion and only then if delivered to the Editor by the following Wednesday.

The Editor clears the box from time to time during the previous week. It is a great help when items can be left in the box a few days before the closing date. Contributors are indeed doing just that when they can 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.

A contribution can be made in one of several ways:

- The best way is now by **email** to the appropriate editor:-

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

Please use a 'Subject' and 'Filename' which are unique to you. Too many 'Chronicles' gets confusing!

- A **3½" disk**, in PC format, preferably 'Saved As' Word for Windows 6 or Word Perfect 2. *Please include hard copy* for checking the formatting and *your address* so that the disk can be easily returned to you.

- A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller. The scanner can read in typescripts but only imperfectly so very careful editing is needed. Even so, this is still much easier than re-typing.

- Finally, **hand-written items** are typed up by a willing team of typists. Thanks to the many contributors who spell out names of people and places in capitals. This does save a lot of pencil sucking and mistakes.

-

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/11th page)

| Advertiser | ---- Number of Inserts ---- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Category: | 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, normally for one or two inserts, are charged at **half** the above rates.

All requests must be accompanied by cash or a cheque made payable to '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 Ab. 531597 to discuss requirements.

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CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER LOTTERY

| | No | Winner | Agent |
|-----|------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| £25 | 1627 | D.Lorenza, 216, Steventon Rd | Sarah Church |
| £20 | 1490 | Mr Sergeant, 6, Haywards Road | Judith Dunster |
| £15 | 0559 | Mr Taylor, 12, Crabtree Lane | Maureen Ruddle |
| £10 | 1753 | C Rogers, 14, Lockway | Barbara Carter |
| £10 | 0274 | T Davies, Sh. Cott. Oday Hill | Gerald Redman |
| £10 | 0489 | G. Logan, 34, Sutton Wick Lane | Beryl Dawson |
| £10 | 2092 | J Cullen., 46, Whitehorns Way | Daphne Barrand |
| £10 | 2253 | Mrs Jacobson, 35, Lyford Close | Gerald Redman |
| £10 | 0259 | Mrs Hill, 85A, Abingdon Road | Gerald Palmer |
| £10 | 2270 | M. Belcher 42, Lyford Close, | Gerald Redman |

The winning tickets were drawn by Pre-School Playgroup Members from the 2154 tickets sold.

THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

| Issue for | Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs by Monday: | Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday: |
|------------|--|---|
| December | 22 November 2004 | 03 December 2004 |
| Jan/Feb-05 | 10 January 2005 | 21 January 2005 |
| March | 14 February 2005 | 25 February 2005 |



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NEWS OF THE CHRONICLE

Geoffrey Long

Two new agents

Two months ago I sought a successor to Joan Sinclair who was retiring as Agent for Crabtree Lane. I'm now delighted to be able to say that Maureen Ruddle, who lives in the lane, has agreed to take on the agency.

Last month Neen Priestnall, Agent for Marcham Road and part of Hilliat Fields, decided that it was time that she also took a rest from the *Chronicle*. Her place was taken straight away by Karen Jackson, so giving a seamless change of agent. An enormous thank you, Neen, for all those years of helping with the *Chronicle* – going back to the days of its precursor, *Hall News*. If we had long-service medals you have certainly earned one.

Many thanks also to Karen and to Maureen for agreeing to help with the *Chronicle*. I hope you will both find the job satisfying and enjoyable.

..... but we still need more

Some years ago Teresa Burnage, already an agent, offered to take on an extra round in Steventon Road when that agency fell vacant. Understandably, she feels that it is now time to hand back that extra round so we are urgently seeking a replacement. The area involved is:

Steventon Road, odd numbers 63-97 inclusive,

These houses are on the left hand side leaving Drayton.

Many thanks, Teresa, for taking care of this extra area for so long and for continuing to run your original agency.

..... and still more

You will read under Neighbourhood News that Freda Palmer is in March Road Hospital recovering from an operation after breaking her hip in a fall. Freda is one of our longest-serving and senior agents and, like Teresa, has been delivering two rounds in Lyford Close for several years. As a temporary measure Gerald Redman has been looking after Freda's rounds in addition to his own round, also double-sized. Although Gerald does this cheerfully – in spite of *his* operation (see Neighbourhood News) – this arrangement cannot go on and so we do need more help here. We are looking for agents to look after the two parts of Lyford Close, at least until Freda is fully fit again:

Lyford Close West, All numbers 5 - 23 & 43 - 58.

Lyford Close East, All numbers 24 - 42.

These vacancies are in addition to the ones publicised in recent months, so there really are plenty of opportunities to get involved. Many of our Agents join because they believe that the *Chronicle* makes a useful contribution to life in the village and also see it as a good way of getting to know more of the village and the people living there – so here are more chances to do just that.

Geography isn't a constraint. You don't have to live in an area to be its agent. So if you are prepared to consider joining the *Chronicle* team and would like to learn more about what is involved please call me on 531321 and I'll be glad to discuss it, without any commitment or obligation at this stage.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Our good wishes and congratulations go to Chris D'Cruze and Judy Foster from Newman Lane who were married on Saturday, September 4th.

We send our best wishes

- to Freda Palmer, of Lyford Close, who is recovering and starting to walk again in Marcham Road Hospital after a hip operation following a fall,
- to Brian Bray, of Whitehorns Way, for a speedy recovery after his knee operation.,
- to Gerald Redman who is now quickly recovering from a cataract operation.

There is more news of our intrepid runner – Daphne Samworth. During the August Bank Holiday weekend she ran 87 miles in 23 running hours along the Ridgeway Path from Ivinghoe Beacon in Bedfordshire to Overton Hill in Wiltshire. In sponsorship she raised £100 for the Helen and Douglas House. Very well done, Daphne!

We must apologise to Hannah and Ciara Richards, the daughters of Mark and Barbara Richards. In welcoming them all to Drayton last month we inadvertently placed them with the wrong family. We are happy to say that they are both still at home with their parents.

SURGICAL CHIROPODIST

M.S.S.Ch., M.B.Ch.A.

HOME VISITS

....00000....

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Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest-in-Charge: Vacancy
Licensed Lay Minister: Dr Peter Barton 523702
Churchwardens: Mr Peter Cline 530519
 Mrs Sue Harris 848361
Organist & Choirmaster: Mr Adrian Thompson..... 01865 714801

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (CW - Traditional)
 10.00am Sung Eucharist (CW) except 2nd Sunday when there is a non-Eucharist Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Prayer (CW)
 Mon - Fri 8.15am Morning Prayer (CW) in the Lady Chapel
 Wednesday 10.30am Parents' and Toddlers' Service, (Pebbles) in Church Room
 Wednesday 6.00pm Evening Prayer (CW) in the Lady Chapel
 Thursday 9.30am Holy Communion (CW) in the Lady Chapel

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday 10.00am Sunday Pebbles and Rocks Church Room
 Monday 7.45pm Bellringing Practice Bell Tower
 Alternate Fridays 7.00pm Choir Practice Church Room

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

Sun 3rd 12.00 noon Holy Baptism – Cayce Thornhill Church
 Tues 5th 3.00 pm First Tuesday Connections Church Room
 Sun 17th 11.15 am Sale of Fair Trade goods Church

PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism

29 August Kian Sam Durkin
 29 August Cameron, Niall, Kia & Aaron Campbell
 5 September Nathan Bott

Marriage

4 September Mark Atherton to Rebecca Smith

Burial of Ashes

4 September Bryan William Gibson

Letter from St Peter's Church

It was with a mixture of gladness and sadness that we joined in the Celebration of Dorothy Derrick's six and a half year ministry at St Peter's Church in Drayton on Saturday 11th September. What a celebration it was! (See the separate article on p1 for more details).

Dorothy's last Sunday services were held on 5th September and she was greeted with a full church. These last services were memorable for several reasons. The regular members of the congregation were only too well aware that Dorothy was leaving and that we were coming to the end of an era. There will inevitably be changes. Some will be popular and others less so. Let us hope we get the balance right.

What was in everyone's mind was that Dorothy was doing things for the last time and that, in a few days, she wouldn't be there to do them again – you never appreciate the jewel in your midst until it isn't there any more! As a little fridge magnet that Dorothy put up in the vestry so aptly stated 'Nobody notices what I do – until I don't do it!'

YOU STAY - WE PRAY

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 3 – 16 Oct: | Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway MHP |
| 17 – 23 Oct: | Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane |
| 24 Oct - 6 Nov: | Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road |

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 or 07 730 870 035**

Dorothy's final service was very much a Celebration, featuring readings and presentations of symbols by members of the church community interspersed with a wonderful collection of Dorothy's favourite hymns. It was followed by a supper and a very memorable evening came to a close.

As we look back over the past few years of Dorothy's ministry, we at St Peter's now have to look and move forward. There is no question that Dorothy and John will be sorely missed. Those of us who will be attempting to carry on with all they did will miss them more than most! They can never be replaced like for like and it would be wrong to try to do so.

We are, however, looking forward to February when Josie Midwinter will be joining us as our new Priest-in-Charge. Josie, who has until recently been working and living in Didcot, is presently on sabbatical in Africa and we wish her well.

In the meantime, we at St Peter's are coming to terms with 'Life after Dorothy' but, essentially, it is 'Business as Usual'. The church will be open and there will be a warm welcome for all. The normal range of services will continue and we have an interesting variety of visiting clergy taking our services over the next few months. We will be celebrating Harvest, All Souls' Day, All Saints' Day and Remembrance Sunday with special services and will be looking forward to Advent and the start of a new Christian year.

However, February 2005 is still some way off. We have taken the opportunity to reconsider our priorities and developing, if you like, a Vision for the future. We are working at that Vision and have discussed and agreed it with Josie. We are building on the enormous legacy that Dorothy, with Theresa Scott and Susan Cole-King before her, worked so hard to build up and we are preparing for what Josie will be doing during the next few years.

At the root of that Vision is the need for us to build upon the sound ministry that we have established with Dorothy over the years but also to make it even more flexible and accessible to our wider community. We need to better understand the needs of the local community both in terms of worship and fellowship.

That is where you come in. Can you spare a moment or two to think of ways in which we, as your local church, can improve our services and relevance to the local community and communicate better with those people we are here to serve? If so, please do let me know.
Peter Cline, Churchwarden

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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)

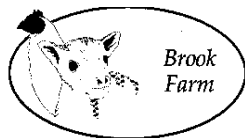
EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

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 soon.



HAVE YOU TRIED OUR **FREE RANGE EGGS?**



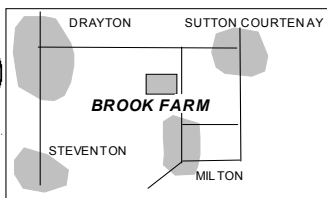
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THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Linda Johnson

I am writing as an Honorary Local Secretary for The Children's Society. As one of the country's leading children's charities we have recently launched 'Safe and Sound' – a major national campaign to highlight the dangers faced by young runaways.

Over 100,000 children run away from home or care in the UK every year. A quarter of these are under 11 – some as young as six years old. Many young runaways are exposed to drug abuse, prostitution and violent crime. Our research shows that 15,000 of these runaways are 'thrown away' – forced to leave home by their parents or carers before they are 16.

We are asking every political party to support our Safe and Sound Test. This calls on local authorities to provide a manager with responsibility for young runaways and a plan to respond to their needs. We are also campaigning for a national network of safe places for under-16s who run away.

It would be helpful if the local spokesmen of the main political parties in the area would write to the local newspapers explaining their policies to help young runaways.

If any of your readers would like more information about the campaign they can visit our website:

www.childrenssociety.org.uk/safeandsound

or telephone our Supporter Action Line on 0845 300 1128.

Please help us to make this country safe for young runaways.

NOTICE BOARD

HOME FARM TRUST

A coffee morning will be held at 71 High Street from 10 am to 12 pm on Wednesday 13th October in aid of The Home Farm Trust. The Armitage family will once again join us and they look forward to meeting their friends and old neighbours.

Christmas Cards, calendars and other seasonal gifts will be on sale, together with home-made marmalade and chutneys.

A warm invitation is extended to all. *Tim and Sally Owen.*

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2004, Steventon & District

Some of the Drayton collectors have retired due to ill-health or increasing infirmity, and we are therefore looking for new recruits to make house-to-house collections in the fortnight leading up to Remembrance Sunday, 14 November 2004, taking just a few hours of each volunteer's time.

RBL funds are used for the welfare of all ex-Service people and their families, and grants are made all the time – sadly, the recent Iraq War underlines the on-going need for welfare work. If you feel you could help with this very worthwhile cause please get in touch and we can explain exactly what is involved.

If you work in Steventon, Drayton or Milton Park and your workplace does not have a Poppy Collecting Box in November, please let us know so we can arrange for this in future.

Peter & Diana Hasting

The Middle House, 11 High Street, Milton.

tel: 01235 834740 --- e-mail diamar@onetel.net.uk

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS **Jean Hager**

If you are feeling lonely, isolated or in need of company, for whatever reason, you are most warmly invited to come along to our monthly drop-in tea and chat afternoons. These are held in St Peter's church room on the first Tuesday of every month at 3.00pm.

Our next two dates are 5th October (our second birthday) and 2nd November when we look forward to welcoming old friends and new for a refreshing cuppa and friendly and sympathetic conversation. For more information or if you need transport please give me a call on 531558.



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FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

The third festival, organised by All Saints Methodist Church 'Appleford Drive, Abingdon will include

Exhibition by around 20 local R&D Laboratories, Companies and Groups. Open on 7, 8, 9 October in All Saints. from 9.00 a.m. Entrance free

"*An Evening with Professor Kathy Sykes*" (of BBC2's 'Rough Science'), 6 October in Fitzharrys School at 7.30 p.m. Ticket only. Adults £5, students under 18 free

Service of Thanksgiving. Sunday 10th October. at 10.30a.m.

Led by Rev John Stanbury Preacher: Dr Paul Williams

For further information or tickets contact: 01235 523492

ALL AROUND

W.I. REPORT

Gwen Price

We had a very entertaining meeting in September when we were given a talk by Betty Collins. After she had retired from teaching, she decided to try her hand on a training ship. Hence the title of her talk, which was *Tall Ships*. Having never done anything like this before, she had some hilarious adventures which she recounted to us with great fun. Since then she has had many other exciting experiences and we look forward to hearing about them. We are having a coffee club on 2nd October at the day centre, where you can buy or sell goods. It is from 10.30 to 12.30. The proceeds will go to this year's charity Pace. Plans are well in hand for our yearly Quiz night on 12th November.

Our *Cook Sew and Grow Show* was successful, although we were some what down in certain classes. Many thanks to the kind people who gave us back their winnings. This saved us from running the show at a loss. Many thanks to Mr. Moylan who provided the display board for the photography and painting sections. It makes such a difference to the presentation of the exhibits.

DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

Get your tickets now for our *Music Hall Nights* production and join in a tuneful and pleasant evening's entertainment which all the family will enjoy. The box office number is 200350 and the tickets are numbered, so book early to choose your seat.

Our performances will be in the Drayton Hall on October 21st, 22nd and 23rd (Thursday to Saturday) at 7.30 p.m. See our advertisement on page 1 for further details. Do come along ready to join in and if you feel like dressing up a bit – even a decorated hat would be great – it will all add to the fun of the occasion. We look forward to seeing you on one of the nights.

As soon as we have sung and danced ourselves to a standstill it will be straight on to rehearsals for our February 2005 musical play. We would still be pleased to hear from any young men interested in joining us for it. Just give Richard Webber a call on 534001 or 523374.

DRAYTON WIVES

Georgie Logan

In October twenty two of us travelled to Friars Court, Clanfield, where we enjoyed a trip around the farm in an open-sided wagon pulled by a tractor. During the trip it was explained that the land was managed with the environment very much in mind in respect of hedgerows, tree planting and wildlife, with a large pond for ducks and a large marshy area for swans. They have even invested in solar panels. We then enjoyed a delicious cream tea, a stroll through the gardens and a visit to the power house where we could watch the units of electricity, generated by the sun, being fed into the power supply from the solar panels. A very interesting and enjoyable visit.

Dates for your diary in October: -

| | | | |
|----------|--------------|-----------------|--|
| Mon 4th | 10.30 COFFEE | Trudi Buckner, | 52 Whitehorns Way |
| Mon 18th | 7.15 WHIST | Joyce Simmonds, | Caudwell D.C |
| Tue 26th | 7.30 MEETING | Happy Feet | Angie Morris (meeting in the small hall of Drayton Hall, not in the lounge) |





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DRAYTON SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

Brian Stimpson

On Thursday 2nd September we held our A.G.M. after another very successful year. The dance club meets most Thursday evenings in the village hall and continues to flourish with a membership of around 65. The club is run more as a social club than a business and charges are kept to a minimum. The admission charge is currently only £1-50 per session.

In addition to the regular Thursday sessions, special dances are arranged by the committee and are held on various Saturdays throughout the year. Examples of such events are the Dinner Dance in March, Strawberry and Cream in July, Hallowe'en in Oct. and of course, Christmas Party and New Year's Eve. All of these were a great success and we look forward to more the coming year.

Although the club has a very good membership we would still welcome new members, particularly Drayton residents as our number of locals is diminishing fast.

Many readers will be aware that one of the founder members of the club, Fred Hays, sadly passed away on Sunday 22nd August. Fred was Chairman, Secretary and general factotum of the club for some fourteen years until he resigned as chairman in October 2001 to enable younger members the opportunity to maintain the clubs high standard. He will be sorely missed by all those fortunate enough to have known him and our thoughts are with his wife, Mavis.

DRAYTON TABLE TENNIS CLUB **Andrew Gould**

The excitement is immense as the new table tennis season begins. After a sports filled summer with the dazzling Euro 2004, and the fun filled Olympics, can I really handle another gripping season of ping-pong!!

I would like to extend a warm Drayton welcome to our new summer signings. Owen Brazell will be joining the A team, along with Clive Hodgson. Leo Rayner, Dean Newbold, Thomas and Jacob Caudle are joining the E team.

As I am writing this before the start of the season and my crystal ball is kaput, there really is not much else I can say.

I wish everyone well for the new season and hope you all do better than last year!!

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MORE ALL AROUND

PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Anna Loughlin

The new pre-school term brings not only a spell of lovely weather, but also a new group of younger children starting their first term. Happy faces show how well they're settling in and enjoying themselves.

Last term, 16 children left pre-school, due to start school in reception class in September. Apologies are sent to Joshua, who was accidentally missed from the list of leavers. Good luck to you and to all the children as you move to school!

September also sees a new play assistant working with the children. A big "Hello!" and lots of luck to Denise as you begin work at pre-school.

The number of sessions, including lunch club, have remained the same. The Friday afternoon session still has places available, so sign up on the information board at pre-school if you are interested.

The sunny weather has brought lots of opportunities for outdoor play. The children eagerly await their turn for a ride on the new bicycles - the bike with baby carrier is proving very popular!

Good job! Drayton pre-school has been awarded a Sun-Safe Zone certificate, proudly displayed for all to see. This acknowledges that the children know about the dangers of the sun and how to protect themselves in the sun.

The theme for this term is the senses. Children will be exploring sound (by playing musical instruments), sight (by taking a closer look at their environment), taste, smell and touch (cooking - yummy!) and using fragranced paint.

Finally, may we ask parents not to park in the school grounds or in the turning circle outside school. Many thanks, and welcome back!

DRAYTON FOOTBALL CLUB

Alan Alston

A busy Summer is now behind us and the members of the Football Club are once again turning their attention to playing matters. During the Summer we have undertaken a number of jobs to improve the internal facilities of the clubhouse. We have also re-turfed some areas of the ground that particularly suffered during last years heat wave. Unlike the majority we were delighted with the wet and warm summer this year that has resulted in the new turf being well established before facing the rigours of the playing season.

This summer has also seen the club undertake a couple of extra events. A very successful Gala Day where we provided entertainment, food and drink for the families of players and others. We also held a Charity Golf Day at Drayton Golf course that enabled us to present a cheque for £800.00 to the Pace Centre at Aylesbury that provides daily integrated education for children with motor disorders such as Cerebral Palsy. We would like to thank the many village businesses and individuals who helped to make this event such a success. We are hoping that both these events will become annual occasions. A huge vote of thanks goes to Kevin Wilkes who has provided the enthusiasm and drive for

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TODDLER GROUP

Anna Loughlin

Toddlers' Fun Day in September was a wonderful success. The children burned off oodles of energy on the bouncy castle and ride-on toys. Adults and children tucked into the large selection of cakes on sale (thanks for all your donations) and also had the opportunity to buy books (Usborne), crafts (designed by Rachel Seemark) and clothes (See-Saw Designs).

The photographer also joined us and, as usual, was very much in demand. As well as the funds raised on the day, we also receive a percentage from the sale of photographs. Every penny helps!

Thanks go to Joy, our tea lady, for all the hard work at Toddlers, both on the fun day and at our regular sessions. Joy is a great asset to the group.

Toddlers is now running on both Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 9.30am and 11.30am at Drayton Village Hall. Your support is invaluable! Numbers of mums and tots attending fell over the summer months and the group has been running at a loss. It would be fantastic to see more faces at Toddlers over the next few weeks, so that we don't face the prospect of closing a session. Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.

Looking ahead to December, we will be holding the children's Christmas party on Sunday 12 December (2.00pm to 4.30pm). Details and booking forms will be available in November, but please put the date in your diary.

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many of these summer activities The new season is just getting underway and hopefully we will be able to report a positive start for both the Saturday 1st and Reserves teams next month. In addition to the Saturday sides, the club has an under 16 team that plays on Sunday afternoons, and also provides facilities to the Red Lion Sunday morning team. As always, anyone who wishes to get involved with the football club in any capacity will be made most welcome. Give me a call on 531425 if you need further details.

BIG THANKS FROM PACE

On behalf of The PACE Centre, I would like to thank everyone in Drayton who has contributed so generously to our charity in recent months. This was topped off by a fantastic Golf Day held by Drayton Football Club, on 19th August, which raised a staggering £1,200.00!

I would also particularly like to mention the following for their very generous contributions:-

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Janet & Glenn at The Red Lion | The Wheatsheaf |
| Claire Stuart from Our Lady's Convent | The parents of Anthony Belcher |
| Marion & Geoff at the paper shop | Vickery's |
| Margaret at Sabina's Hairdressers | Angela Painton & Sylvia Bond |

and everyone who contributed via Judy's Christmas collection.

The PACE Centre provides an 'education for life' for children with cerebral palsy, teaching them essential daily living skills such as walking, eating and using their hands, which most children are fortunate to be able to take for granted. There are currently 59 children, aged from six months to twelve years old, who attend PACE and, although the Centre is based in Aylesbury, due to its uniqueness children travel from up to a 50-mile radius, including a large number from the Oxfordshire area.

Many of you may know Judy and Derek Henman, whose granddaughter Natasha comes to PACE. Natasha is 5 years old and is in a group with seven other children who have similar abilities and difficulties. She has achieved so much since she started here, and is now learning to walk alone, eat and drink by herself and, much to the delight of her family, is starting to speak - all things which she was unable to do before PACE. The aim, where possible, is to prepare the children for successful integration into mainstream education, and it is hoped that Natasha will be ready for this progression after another 2-3 years of intensive input at PACE. However Natasha's Local Education Authority will not fully fund her place, and an additional £15,000 is needed each year to continue with Natasha's programmes. The approach at PACE is very intense and specialist, but is well worth the high cost when the children make such fantastic progress.

Sadly, Natasha is in a similar situation to many of the children at PACE, and we have to rely on the generosity of grant-making trusts, companies, community groups, schools and individuals and on a variety of fundraising events to help us make up this shortfall every year. There are also numerous plans to improve the facilities at PACE in the future, as at the present time there is a waiting list, cramped conditions, and a lack of outdoor space for the children. Eventually it would be great to extend the PACE service, and open up other centres around the whole of the UK.

If you would like to get involved with fund-raising for PACE, I would be delighted to hear from you on 01296 395136, or at PACECentre@aol.com There are loads of things you could do, from holding a coffee morning to running the Flora London Marathon (entries are now open!), or even to a sponsored parachute jump.

Thanks again to everyone in Drayton for your fantastic support.

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Sabina's for your next hair appointment

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WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR G.P. SURGERY IS CLOSED

A new 'Out of Hours' emergency health care service in South West Oxfordshire was introduced on 1st September 2004, The new service will offer care for urgent health problems when GP surgeries are closed - that is between 6.30pm and 8.30am Monday to Friday and 24 hours over weekends and bank holidays.

The *Out of Hours Service* can be contacted on 0845 345 8995. This number will also be available on your regular G.P. surgery's answer-phone.

Your personal details will be taken and passed onto a duty GP, who will return your call and assess your medical requirements. This may involve advice about self-care, a visit to the Primary Care Centre for our district, (at the Abingdon Community Hospital, Marcham Road) or a home visit by a GP or specialist Paramedic. If appropriate, patients will be given an appointment and advised when and where to attend The Primary Care Centre

As with the existing out of hours service, calls should be restricted to genuinely urgent health care problems only. Out of hours cover does NOT, for example, deal with the following:

- Prescriptions for medicines that can be bought at the chemist
- Repeat prescriptions
- Second opinions on problems being dealt with by your doctor
- Problems that can wait until your surgery is open

Emergencies

Please remember - if you are faced with a real emergency and the patient needs *immediate* care:

- either Dial 999 and ask for an ambulance

- or Go straight to the nearest Emergency Department - at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, the Royal Berkshire and Battle Hospital in Reading or the Great Western in Swindon

Health Advice

General advice on health (e.g. on minor ailments, coughs, colds and headache, etc) is available from *NHS Direct* advice 24 hours a day on 0845 4647.

Your local pharmacy can also offer you a range of services, including advice and medicines to relieve symptoms of minor ailments.

Based on publications of the South West Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust. Ed

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DRAYTON SCHOOL

Claire Soper

The children and staff are settling down into their new routines as the Autumn term progresses. Five additional computers have been installed in the computer suite, some via the Tesco Voucher Scheme, so a BIG thank you to everyone who sent in vouchers to school.

This half term the children have been focusing on the value of "Responsibility" and Mrs Higgs was able to congratulate several children in assembly who have demonstrated this, particularly in relation to helping the younger children in the Lower Unit during their first few weeks in school. As we pride ourselves at Drayton on the Schools caring atmosphere it's good to have such excellent examples – well done to everyone concerned.

The Lower Unit children will be working on the topic of "Out and About", which suggests some local visits within the village. They also have some stunning displays in their classrooms of the seaside, which help to conjure up memories of their summer holidays.

The Middle Unit have visited the Natural History Museum in Oxford to look at different types of skeletons, as part of their science work on "Moving and Growing".

They are also studying as part of their Geography topic "Weather around the World" and will be focusing on the climatic zones of the rainforest, desert and polar regions. Which all sounds quite fascinating!

The Upper Unit will be studying different river systems. The children are also preparing for their week long trip to Yenworthy in November and are very excited about this.

The Year 5 and 6 classrooms has benefited from new tables and chairs during the summer holidays, funded by F.O.D.S.A.

Harvest Festival will be celebrated on Friday 8th October with a special Family Assembly at 10am, when friends of the school are most welcome to join everyone.

Football training has commenced for the new season under the skilled direction of Richard Seamark. There has been lots of interest from pupils in Years 3-6 so far this term and we wish the team lots of success in their future matches.

Finally a reminder that F.O.D.S.A. will be holding a Disco in school on Friday 15th October from 7-9.30 for school families.

DOROTHY AND JOHN DERRICK

Continued from page 1

There followed a laying on of hands, a blessing and the final stirring hymn, 'Lord, for the years Your love has kept and guided'. It was an incredibly moving experience.

After the service, there were a few very appropriate words from Theresa Scott, who was assistant to Dorothy here until 2002. She stressed how it was an essential part of Dorothy's ministry that everyone should be allowed to contribute reflected by the bringing up of the symbols during the service. She pointed out that Dorothy was one of the first women to be ordained and that, as a woman of prayer, she had given her time and her self with love and prayer to everyone. Theresa stressed that we should all keep Dorothy and John in our prayers as they settle down in Carlisle.

Theresa's contribution was followed by tributes from the churchwardens who gave Dorothy a selection of gifts including a silver candleholder, some pictures and a beautiful quilt featuring a picture of St Peter's Church from the children's group, St Peter's Unlimited. There was also a card and present from All Saints' Church in Sutton Courtenay.



Dorothy responded with thanks and pointed out that she had struggled at first to extend her

ministry beyond the church community into the wider community of Drayton but hoped that she had succeeded. She thanked John for all his support and hard work both in her ministry and around the church and churchyard.

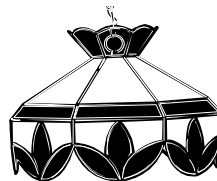
She agreed to leave her glove puppet, 'Q', which was a feature of her Family Service talks for a few months but she flatly refused to leave John!

Dorothy and John are looking forward to getting to Carlisle and Dorothy stressed that her clerical collar is being firmly put away, at least until Christmas, during which time she will enjoy being 'Mrs Derrick' again. But, after Christmas, who knows?

There followed a quick rearrangement of the furniture and a lovely supper appeared which, considering how many people there were in church, was a very cordial and sociable occasion. Yes, it was emotional and, yes, there were tears, but it was such a happy evening as well, and one that all who were there will remember for a long time to come.

We all join in wishing Dorothy and John every happiness and a long, healthy and happy retirement.

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YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR COLUMN

Grahame Ash

Did you know?

“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?” asked the Parish Council scribe in last month’s Chronicle. Well, I for one didn’t! Nor does the Planning Directorate at the Vale. Nor does the Oxfordshire County Council!

At the Lib Dem meeting on the local plan, I do remember arguing persuasively and successfully that there should not be any developments on the outskirts of villages, as people moving to village communities wanted to retain the village image rather than find it swallowed up by a nearby town. At the planning meeting it was agreed that the main area of development would be in Grove. The land was not green belt. It was also agreed that strict conditions on facilities, including roads would be introduced before the development took place. To suggest Grove was an alternative to a local new town is absolute nonsense.

I would mention that when I canvassed to be district councillor some six years ago, a rumour abounded that a considerable tract of land south of Abingdon was going to be built on, linking up with Drayton to make it essentially a suburb of Abingdon. The truth was that it was not the case then and is not the case now.

Boundary Changes

In the same Parish Council meeting article, the writer asks if we knew that the Drayton division of the Oxfordshire County would be no more. Both your district councillor and the Parish council objected to this change by the Boundary Commission, but to no avail. The Commission has been given its target by the Labour Government to re-align the County Electoral divisions by numbers of voters; in other words each councillor represents approximately the same number of voters. As far as the Commission is concerned, if the new boundaries link villages with towns it is apparently of little consequence, as long as the voting ratio is maintained.

There will be the opportunity in May to vote for two County councillors to represent you in the new South Abingdon and Drayton division.

I thought I would just mention that the Vale’s wards were changed for the last district elections. Although Drayton remained unchanged, Steventon lost its independence and became integrated with the Hagbournes. Two district councillors represent this new ward.

Charity Check

If you have ever wondered whether a Charity collection is valid you can now check for yourself. In the past, perhaps you have thought some Charities mislead and possibly some you have found quite annoying by their aggressive collection style. Now details of the business and collection attitudes of individual charities can be seen by logging on to website www.charitycollections.org →

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→ All Charities now have to comply with the Home Office Guidance; this details certain disclosures, such as the remuneration of the collectors, and style of collection. It really is trying to stop rogue collections. If you are uncertain about donating, the Charity Check suggests you ask the collector the following two main questions:

1. Do you conform to Home Office Guidance?

2. And How? (For example what is the charities solicitation statement when requesting a donation?)

Personally I am not quite sure if the Charity Check organisation expects you to dash to the computer and check the answers whilst the collector is still standing waiting for a donation. I would also add a third question: - can I see your collection authority (Which all collectors must have)!

What ever you decide to do, please don’t let the collector have the opportunity of entering your home. There have been far too many instances where this has led to stealing. You know it makes sense to be safe rather than sorry.

Travellers Management Unit

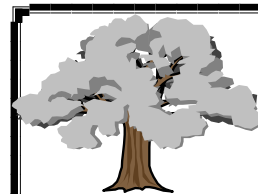
The removal of travellers occupying land without consent is very often far from easy. Any decision to evict travellers from unauthorised encampments must also comply with the Human Rights Act of 1998. This article is to advise that a Management Unit, comprising of county staff and a police inspector has been established to cover the Oxfordshire area. Its objectives are to work closely with the travellers to help them and, in addition, to arrange earlier removal of unauthorised encampments under Police powers rather than going through the tortuous routes available to the District Councils.

And Finally

The next surgery will be held at 9.00am at the Village Hall on Saturday November 6th. I look forward to meeting any Drayton residents who wish to come along and discuss their concerns. There is no October surgery.

Regards

Grahame Ash



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Daniel Scharf

At its meeting on 6 September the Council welcomed the new Clerk, Marie Selwood, and said goodbye to Maria Wysocki-Jones who had given the Council valuable service.

Village residents came to the meeting to raise the issue of the access being created to a garden in Sutton Wick near to the pond. The issue of the use of motorbikes on Eastway was also raised. This is an offence, as Eastway is a bridleway that can only be used legally by horses, pedestrians and bicycles.

Work will start very shortly on the replacement of the swings and safety surface on the Lockway playground.

The usual discussion on traffic management revealed that consultation on the calming measures that are available to the village as a result of the Didcot Integrated Transport Study will be discussed in October/November.

The Council received a report from its member Chris Thurston-Davis who had carried out a careful analysis of the proposed boundary changes that would put Drayton in the same County Council constituency as an Abingdon ward. The Council decided to make a strong late objection to this proposal, explaining how Drayton could stay with Sutton Courtenay, Steventon, Milton, and Appleford.

As always, residents are encouraged to attend the next meeting on 4 October at 7.45 at the Caudwell Day Centre.

BE AWARE! ANOTHER SCAM


Please be aware of the following and inform friends and family as appropriate. We have been made aware of a telephone fraud currently in operation both to home and/or work telephones - landlines and mobiles:

Upon answering the telephone you will hear a recorded message congratulating you on winning an all expenses trip to an exotic location. You will then be asked to press 9 to hear further details. If you press 9 you will be connected to a premium rate line that costs approximately £20 per minute. Even if you disconnect immediately it will remain connected for a minimum of 5 minutes, costing around £100. The final part of the call involves you being asked to key in your postcode and house number (which has other serious consequences).

After a further 2 minutes you will receive a message informing you that you are not one of the lucky winners. The total bill will be around £260. Since the calls are originating from outside the UK, BT and other telephone companies are left relatively powerless to act.

The only safe solution is to HANG UP before the message prompts you to press 9; even safer is to HANG UP on any unsolicited 'free offer' call. This appears to be a variation on a theme; warnings have been circulated previously regarding calls made by individuals claiming to be A T&T engineers conducting a test on the line and asking you to press 9 and # and similar text messages. DO NOT DIAL 9 (OR VARIANTS) FOR ANYONE!

Tony Holmes



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Fred Hays, 1919 to 2004

Fred was born in New Northcourt, Abingdon and was a life-long Baptist. A full church at his funeral service was a tribute to his many interests both in the church and elsewhere. He was a grocer by trade, working at Walkers and World Stores, which used to be in the High Street, Abingdon. He later worked at MG motors in Marcham Road until its close and, with a friend, started the MG swimming club.

He retired to Drayton in 1973 where his first wife, Eileen, died. He remarried and Mavis and Fred enjoyed 24 years together.

Fred was Diarist for the Drayton Chronicle for 20 years and with Richard and Joyce Cheynie, also from Drayton founded the Drayton Sequence Dance Club which continues to prosper. One of Fred's greatest achievements and pleasures was to be one of the driving forces behind the restoration of a Compton theatre organ and its subsequent installation in the then new Abbey Hall - concerts are still held regularly.

For over 32 years he served on the committee of the Theatre Organ Preservation Society, holding every office except that of chairman. On finally stepping down from the committee he was honoured with a lifetime presidency. Fred will be greatly missed, not least for his poetry and for his humour, by the village and by his wife Mavis and family.

Mavis Hays

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Sir,

British Red Cross collection

I would like to thank the people of Whitehorns Way who gave so generously to the British Red Cross collection in May. We raised £63-42p.

Yours sincerely

Daphne Barrand,

Dear Sir,

British Heart Foundation Collection

Once again through the Chronicle I would like to thank the residents of Sutton Wick Lane, Greenacres, Newman's Lane and part of Abingdon Road for donating £93.24, Margaret and the customers of Sabina's hairdressing for the sale of red ribbons £15.20 and donations of £13.00. A grand total of £121.44 for the British Heart Foundation!

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

D Eato

Chairman of Abingdon and District Branch
of the British Heart Foundation.

THIS SPACE - - and more besides - - could have been filled by something you had written. Just drop your contribution into 'The Box' (See 'Notes for Contributors on page 2) or let the Editor have some notes to work on.

DRAYTON DIARIES

DIARY FOR OCTOBER

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|------------------------------|--|
| To book Drayton Hall ring 531501 | | To call the Hall ring 528686 | |
| Sat | 2 | 9.00 am | NO Councillor G Ash Surgery this month |
| Sat | 2 | | Private Party |
| Mon | 4 | 7.45 pm | Parish Council Meeting <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i> |
| Sat | 9 | | Private Party |
| Wed | 13 | 10 - 12 | Home Farm Trust Coffee Morning <i>71 High Street</i> |
| Sat | 16 | | Private Party |
| Sun | 17 | 11.15 am | Fair Trade Stall <i>St Peter's Church</i> |
| Sun | 17 | | Drayton Players, setting up |
| Mon | 18 | 9.15 am | Chronicle Lottery Deadline <i>Vickery's</i> |
| Mon | 18 | 5.15 pm | Chronicle Copy Deadline <i>Vickery's</i> |
| Thu | 21 | | Drayton Players |
| | to | | "Come to the Music Hall" |
| Sat | 23 | | 7.30 each evening – see details on page 1 |
| Sun | 24 | 2.30 pm | Drayton Players clean-up |
| Tue | 26 | | Blood Donor Clinic |

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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) | |
| 7.00 pm | Keep Fit | |
| 7.15 pm | Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday) | <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 7.30 pm | Youth Club (until 9.30pm) | |
| 7.30 pm | Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours) | <i>School</i> |
| 7.45 pm | Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) | <i>St Peter's</i> |

TUESDAYS

| | | |
|---------|--|----------------------------|
| 9.00 am | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) | <i>School Ground Bldg</i> |
| 9.30 am | Parent and Toddler Group | |
| 1.45 pm | Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) | <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i> |
| 3.00 pm | Junior Netball (for 1 hour) | <i>School</i> |
| 3.00 pm | First Tuesday Connections (First Tuesday in month) | <i>Church Room</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) | |
| 3.00pm | First Tuesday Connections | <i>St Peters</i> |
| 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> |
| 1.00 pm | Computer Class (to 3.00pm) | |
| 7.00pm | Choir Practice | <i>St Peter's</i> |

SUNDAYS

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

ABINGDON OPERATIC SOCIETY PRESENTS

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

In the Amey Hall, Abingdon School –
Monday 25th to Saturday 30th October
at 7.30 pm

To enquire about tickets ring (01235) 834383

DISCLAIMER

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