

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley

Volume 27, No. 10

November 2004

NOT VOLUNTEERING?

The DAMASCUS bus is now visiting the five participating villages in sequence. It has so far operated in Sutton Courtenay, Milton Heights and Appleford, and is due to start in Steventon during October. We plan that it will visit Drayton on each Tuesday from 5.00 to 6.30pm for 4 weeks starting on 9th November 2004 and hope that 11 to 16 year olds of both genders will visit it. With the kind permission of the Drayton Village Hall Committee we will now be using the village hall car park as our venue for the bus.



Thereafter, **provided we can get adult volunteers from Drayton** to drive and man the Bus, it could be visiting Drayton regularly and each of the other villages on a weekly basis as was always hoped. Without volunteers we are dependent upon the faithful few from the Committee and our two part-time employees. The other villages are providing volunteers and the Bus is generating considerable interest, each with its own

slant. Drayton has contributed strongly to setting up the project and it would be a great pity if there were no adult volunteer support to carry it through. It is through the Bus that we can identify young people, between 11 and 16 or so, to attend the courses on mechanics and driving which are very popular and well run by TRAX. We are open to other ideas.

I appeal to Drayton to follow up their financial support with the assistance of some adult volunteers. For more information ring Caroline Grundy on 848679, or for bus drivers (who must be over 30 and hold a car licence) Giles Shearing on 07702649341 who can arrange training to drive the bus when empty.

Nick Thompson, Chairman of DAMASCUS

NOT TRAFFIC-CALMING?

I appreciated the piece in the September Chronicle entitled "More Traffic". The thought of any speed humps on the main roads through Drayton appals me but I have the feeling that it is just a matter of time before these money wasting, noise generating, damage-causing irrelevances become reality. We have lived here on the Steventon Road since 1976 and I cannot call to mind a single speed-related accident. Our house is exactly opposite East Way on what must be one of the faster stretches – indeed this is where the police usually set up their speed trap – but even here I would not have said speed was especially a problem. Surely there must be the statistics of all such incidents on the Abingdon/Steventon Road and the High Street. Do you have access to such information and if so what does it say?

A year or so back we had a loose manhole cover in the road and the continual repetitive noise of vehicles hitting it, although not extremely loud,

nearly drove us mad! What on earth would it be like to have goods vehicles, not to mention cars, rattling over speed humps?

History seems to indicate that local opinion, even majority local opinion, counts for not very much when these decisions are made by those with power to make them. Is there anything that can be done to prevent a horrible eventuality?

Alan Bourne



An abnormally peaceful High Street

NOT AGREEING?

A Public Inquiry to consider objections to the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2011 relating to development to the west of Didcot will be held in November and December, in South Oxfordshire District Council's Offices at Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford. More details on page 9.

Terry Stock, Vale of WHDC Chief Executive

Also in this issue:

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Candlelight Carol Service

Drayton Hall at 7.30pm
Sunday 5th December

A warm welcome to all to come.
Enjoy your favourite carols, readings,
poetry, bell-ringing, singing
Music by Abingdon Town Band
Mince pies, tea and coffee
Collection for NCH Action for Children



Free admission

Drayton School Christmas Fair

12.00 to 15.00 at the School
Sunday 28th November

Santa's Grotto
Pocket Money Toys
Children's Craft Activities
Cakes – Tombola - Raffle

Refreshments and lots more



CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **December Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 03 December 2004** from **Helen Brasington, 1 Cheers Farm, (534045)**, who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Geoffrey Long, Aeolian House, Chiers Drive, (531321)**. Contributions should be emailed to the issue editor or placed in the Chronicle letter box, which is outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

no later than 5.15 pm on Monday, 22 November 2004.

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

THE FOLLOWING THREE MONTHS		
Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs needed by Monday:	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:
Jan/Feb-05	10 January 2005	21 January 2005
March	14 February 2005	25 February 2005
April	14 March 2005	25 March 2005

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

A contribution can be made in one of several ways:

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADVERTISING RATES

For a single Block Advert (about 1/6th column)

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

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

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

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

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE OCTOBER LOTTERY			
Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	0441	G Price, 39A Sutton Wick Lane	Nick Hamilton
£20	0214	Mr Hudson, 21, Cornville Road	Gerald Redman
£15	1570	C Turley, 18, Binnings Close	Christine Turley
£10	1267	M Owens, 80 Steventon Road	Jackie Walker
£10	2042	J Hager, 27, Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	1164	B Gould, 6 Steventon Road	Judy Henman
£10	2078	P Smith, 21 Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	1750	S Ash, 20 Lockway	Barbara Carter
£10	0824	J Bott, 55, High Street	Margaret Long
£10	0157	Mr Jackie 2 Cornville Road	Gerald Redman
The winning tickets were drawn by staff of the Red Lion from the 2170 tickets sold			

WOULD ALL OUR READERS PLEASE NOTE? Next month we will, as usual, be offering our extra Christmas Draw prizes of wine and biscuits. So why not ask your agent for a few extra tickets to increase your chances? Or call into Vickery's store where Lawrence always has extra tickets for sale each month.

IMPORTANT!!! WOULD AREA AGENTS PLEASE NOTE? If you write a cheque to return your lottery monies would you make it out to Drayton Chronicle and **not to Drayton Amenities Society?** Some time ago the general monies in that account were transferred to the Drayton Community Trust and the Chronicle monies transferred to the new Drayton Chronicle account.

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Sir,

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all those who so generously supported our recent Coffee Morning in aid of the Home Farm Trust. A very happy occasion was enjoyed by all and, including donations, the sum of £694.00 was raised. Our grateful thanks are extended to all who helped in any way to make it such a successful event.

Yours faithfully,

Tim and Sally Owen; Peter and Doane Armitage

Dear Editor,

May I use the Chronicle to send a message to all your readers?

Some of us have decided that it would be a good idea to try to produce a book about Drayton from approximately 1950 to 2000. We would need pictures and memories.

For example: the old village school as it was and is - and special occasions; Drayton players - we know they have been going forty years - pictures and incidents. The Church - the fire - special occasions and people. The old village hall - has anyone any pictures? The building of the new village hall - pictures? We all contributed by buying a piece of car park!

The bypass - I have pictures of its beginnings - has anyone else? The old recreation ground; the land before the tip and golf course - I have pictures of this - has anyone else? Burt's garage - I know Lynda and Roger have these. The origins and special days of the football club; the old Labour club, Drayton Brownies and Cubs, the W.I. - Drayton Wives, Table Tennis, Netball Club and

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⇒ the comparatively new clubs - photos and special occasions. The shops that we have lost; the special commemoration of the great fire in Drayton; the snow that cut us off from Abingdon.

There is so much we need - photos and stories - before they are lost. We will collect all we already have together and hopefully have an open meeting in the village hall early in the new year to share photos and stories and gets things started.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Henman

Dear Editor,

I visited Freda Palmer in Abingdon Hospital a few days ago. Her hip is still giving problems and I am sure that all her friends in the village would want the Chronicle to wish her well and a steady recovery. Besides being the agent for *both* Areas in Lyford Way, Freda contributed several poems and articles to the Chronicle over the years. I hope she will soon put pen to paper again.

Geoffrey Long

WORKING PARENTS SUPPORT NETWORK?

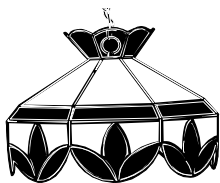
Sarah Pearce

In these times of working parents, in which the Government keeps encouraging mothers to support the economy by continuing to work and mortgages and the cost of living give us little choice I am posed with a dilemma. My son starts school at Easter, which is a major milestone in both his and my life. An event that has come around quicker than I ever anticipated but a welcome one, if a little heart rendering, none the less.

My dilemma? Adequate after-school child-care. I am faced with the unenviable choice between being able to support my son financially by providing him with a roof over his head, heating, food and clothing - not to mention the innumerable costs for activities, learning resources and toys - and being able to be there for him every afternoon as he finishes school. This is a dilemma that I am sure others have, and in searching for an ideal alternative to having to stop work and worry constantly about money, I have a suggestion to put to other working families within the village.

With spaces being at a premium in the after-school club run at Drayton CP, I am proposing a group of parents get together with children around the same age to create a collective, collaborative Working Parents Support Network for after school. With a group of five parents it would mean that one afternoon a week, they would have four other children round to play and for tea; with a group of ten parents this would go down to one afternoon a fortnight. My thinking is that as the children spend time together at school, they will not only be with other children that they know and interact well with, but also that as the children progress through pre-school and school, the parents have got to know and develop trust with each other. Evidently there will be times when holidays and appointments cannot be avoided, but with more parents in the network then there is more potential to be flexible and accommodating.

I know that this is not an ideal solution, but we do not live in an ideal world. I would love to be able to be there for my son every afternoon; however the bills need paying! If you would be interested in exploring this idea further, I would love to hear from you. I can be contacted by email at sarah_ap@hotmail.com, mobile 07879 498631 or home phone 01235 554328.



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Churchwardens Mr Peter Cline 530519
 Mrs Sue Harris..... 848361
Organist & Choirmaster Mr Adrian Thompson..... 01865 714801

REGULAR SERVICES

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

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday 10.00 am Sunday Pebbles and Rocks *Church Room*
 Monday 7.45 pm Bell Ringing Practice *Bell Tower*
 Friday 7.00 pm Choir Practice (fortnightly) *Church Room*

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

Tues 2nd 3.00 pm First Tuesday Connections *Church Room*
 Sun 14th 11.15 am Sale of Fair Trade goods *Church*
 6.30 pm St Peter's UNLimited *Church Room*

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

3rd June Cayce Thornhill

Funeral

8th October Geoffrey Oscar von Hoven

YOU STAY - WE PRAY

24 Oct – 6 Nov: Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road. 7 – 13 November: Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive. 14 - 27 November: Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green. 28 Nov – 4 Dec: High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close.

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Letter from Sue Harris

Dear Friends,

It is now five weeks since Dorothy retired and she and John moved to Carlisle. How time flies and how much we miss them. It still seems very strange at times not to have Dorothy celebrating services with us, or to see John working in the churchyard or doing any number of other duties which they both carried out. We are very grateful to Peter Barton, our Licensed Lay Minister and Jack Jarvis (LLM at Steventon) and to the clergy who are helping us by taking services during the interregnum. It has been very interesting to experience different styles of ministry. We look forward to more of this in the coming weeks.

Thankfully we have had no disasters yet and everyone at St Peter's is working together to keep all the activities and services of the Church running smoothly. Dorothy set up a Ministry Team long before she left in order that there would be a continuation of her ministry here when she did retire.

There are five different teams which comprise the Ministry Team as a whole. These are: the Care Team, the Worship Team, the Discipleship Group, the Healing Group and the Prayer Hub. Each of them has a responsibility for a key area within the work of St Peter's, from organising major services (Worship Group) to arranging hospital visits (Care Team). If you have a look in Church there are boards on display which will give you more details of who is involved in each group and what they do. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of a group if you need their help or have a contribution to make. As Peter said in his letter last month we welcome any input as to how we can meet the needs of our community and improve communications. This is your Church and we hope that everyone receives a warm welcome when they visit.

Dorothy's foresight is paying off as the different members of the team have taken on the challenge. It is working successfully and as churchwarden it has greatly relieved the pressure on me and my colleague, Peter Cline, during the interregnum.

I think it has also shown us that we are all capable of a much larger role in the life and running of a church and parish. We are all God's children and his house is our house and we should be willing to take a more active part in what happens. As Dorothy told us many times we all have a contribution to make. We were incredibly lucky in the ministry and hard work that both Dorothy and John carried out here in Drayton. However, lay people are good at ministering and it is in everyday acts which this can be best shown. Giving a helping hand to a neighbour, offering a lift, fetching some shopping, we can all do these things. So perhaps we can all try to "minister" to one another in whatever way we can and carry on not just Dorothy's legacy, but Christ's too.

Sue Harris

Reverend Eric Wood

Many folk in the village will wish to know that the Reverend Eric Wood died in Worcester on Sunday 10 October. He was Vicar of Drayton from 1968 until 1981 and his ministry is still remembered with affection by many here.

Peter Barton

Margaret welcomes you to
Sabina's for your next hair appointment
 40 ABINGDON ROAD - DRAYTON - Tel. (01235) 531140
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BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Home Visitor Mrs Norma Russell.....Tel. 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 of the month.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

The next family service will be on 7th November at 11.30am. The speaker will be Philip Sylvester from Baptist Church, Oxford, in Woodstock Road.

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

The BAPTIST CHURCH BAZAAR will be at the Village Hall at 2.00pm on Saturday 13th November. If you would like to bring anything bits and bobs etc, that you do not want, that we could sell for the Baptist Church you can bring this to the village hall at 12.00 noon on the same day.

Our Harvest Festival was on the 3rd Oct. We had some good old Harvest Hymns, and the display of fruit and vegetables was a real picture. On the Monday the day after at 7.30 pm, we had a Harvest Supper of bread and cheese. After the supper we had a sale of the food that everyone had brought in the day before. We all decided by a show of hands to put the money raised and the collections from the previous day to be sent to Christian Aid. As we raised £160.00 in all, half will go to the terrible famine in Darfur in Sudan, Africa and the other half to the victims that have lost so much by the Hurricane Charley which swept through the Caribbean, hitting Jamaica. Also Hurricane Jeanne hit Haiti and the Dominican Republic and also hot on its heels was the worst flooding in Bangladesh for fifteen years.

The remainder of the fruit and vegetables that was left over from our sale, was given as gifts to people in the village. We are so lucky here in this country, all we have to do is open a cupboard to find food. So let's be very thankful for all God's Blessings and our rich Harvest here in this country.

We said our final farewell to Dorothy and John at a Service of Celebration on Sat 11th September. Everyone was invited to this. The Church was full and it was a very happy time, as we all joined together to wish them all the best for the future. The Service of Celebration was first, and then Dorothy and John were presented with many parting gifts. A beautiful bunch of flowers, a candle holder, a framed photo, a commissioned watercolour painting, chocolates, a wonderful patchwork quilt hand made by Teresa Taylor. The quilt was of St Peters Church, it was beautifully done, with other pictures round the edge that the young people had done themselves, with their names on. I'm sure Dorothy and John will treasure it. Also a cheque from everyone, which quite took Dorothy's breath away and she was quite overcome by this gift. She said "It will come in very handy we will need some new carpet when we move to Carlisle." After the service everyone had a buffet and drinks, a smashing time was had by all.

God Bless you both; go in peace, for our God goes with you.
Janet Strong

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

The Methodist Chapel

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Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409



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NOTICE BOARD

CAB Fundraiser Needed

The Didcot and District Citizens Advice Bureau have a small grant for a part time, temporary Fundraiser, paid on an hourly rate of £9.33. We need someone to research and identify funding sources and make the applications as appropriate. Experience is desirable but not necessary if there is plenty of enthusiasm. Hours will be in the daytime and office based, but irregular due to the nature of the work.

For more information or an application form (CVs not accepted) please contact the Bureau Manager on 01235 512839. Closing date 12th November 2004.

Abingdon and District Music Society's Concerts

13th Nov 7.30 St Helen's Church, Abingdon
Faure's Requiem with French chansons & various motets

4th Dec 7.30 Silk Hall, Radley College
Capriccio Espagnole by Rimsky-Korsakov, Concerto for Double Bass by Koussevitsky, Russian Folk Song Suite by Lyadov, Symphony No. 2 by Tchaikovsky

18th Dec 7.30 St Michael's Church, Abingdon
Christmas Concert for Charity, the Christmas Story by Schultz and carols for all.

Abingdon Drama Club's Pygmalion

ABINGDON DRAMA CLUB presents PYGMALION by George Bernard Shaw, at the UNICORN THEATRE, Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon, Wed 17th to Sat 20th November at 7.30 pm. Tickets: £6.50 (concessions £5.50) from Modern Music or from Ticketline 01235 524538.

St Michael's Steventon's Christmas Fair

St Michael's Cof E Primary School, Steventon has its Christmas Fair this year at the Steventon Village Hall on Saturday 27th November, from 11.30am until 2pm.

Drayton's 2004 New Year's Eve Family Disco

This will be held in Drayton Hall on 31 December, from 8.00 pm to late, with a buffet supper. Tickets are £10 for adults and over 15s, £5 for children between 6 and 15 and can be bought from Dot Day (call 531501) or by calling 01865 407712

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APPOINTMENTS

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ALL AROUND

TODDLER GROUP

Anna Loughlin

It's been fantastic to welcome some new faces to the Toddler Group. Toddlers runs on a Tuesday and Thursday morning between 9.30am and 11.30am. Come and enjoy the benefits of our group - friendship, fun and a welcome cuppa to mention just a few!

Looking ahead, its party time again! The Toddlers Christmas party will be held at the Village Hall on Sunday 12th December, between 2pm and 4.30pm. A terrific time is guaranteed, thanks to children's entertainer, Rosie, festive refreshments, a tombola and, of course, a visit from Father Christmas. Gifts for the tombola - wine, chocolates, toys, etc, will be very gratefully received from members and non-members (please call 206170 to arrange collection).

Forms with details of the party are available at Toddlers, so come and join us for some festive fun, and that's an invitation to Dads, too! A meeting will be held in November to arrange the event (see Toddlers notice board for date and time). The party takes a surprising amount of time to organise and put together and the more people that volunteer to help, the better!

Debbie Bargas, the treasurer for Toddlers has done a sterling job over the past year. Debbie would like to step down as she is no longer able to come regularly to the group. Is anyone willing to take over the role? It is not time-consuming and you do not have to be an accountant to do it! Please help out if you can.

The Toddler Group will be open up to and including Tuesday 21 December. Toys, festive crafts and songs will keep the children busy. Toddlers will reopen on Tuesday, 11 January.

Finally, many congratulations to Caroline and Josh Denby on the arrival of their beautiful little daughter/sister, Heather!

PRE-SCHOOL

Anna Loughlin

This term the children are investigating the senses. They are getting their hands messy making Diva pots for Divali. Not suprisingly, they have particularly enjoyed exploring taste and they are now adept at buttering toast and making sandwiches (marmite and carrot fillings were real favourites)! Eating the fruits of their labour wasn't too difficult, either!

Looking ahead, Ladies Night has been arranged for Friday, 19th November at the Cauldwell Day Centre. The entrance fee is £1 - well worth it for an enjoyable evening out! Crafts, chocolates, wine and Body Shop gifts will be on sale. So, ladies, come and pamper yourselves and get ahead with some Christmas shopping.

Christmas will soon be upon us and Pre-school have some dates for your diaries. A book tombola and a Teddy Bear Lucky Ticket Draw will be the Pre-school stall at the Christmas Fair, held at Drayton School on Sunday, 28th November. Also, raffle tickets for the fantastic Pre-school Christmas Draw will be going on sale after half term.

The yearly sing-along will take place on Thursday, 16th December at Pre-school from 10.30am. Most importantly, the children's Christmas party is on Friday, 17th December between 11am and 2pm, with entertainment from Rosie and of course, ➔

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➔ a visit from Father Christmas!

The next Pre-school committee meeting will be held during the week commencing 8th November. The exact date will be advertised on the notice board. Everyone is most welcome to attend the meeting. The Pre-school sessions are currently full but please fill in registration forms (available at Pre-school) for next year. The term ends on Wednesday 15th December and will restart on Monday 10th January, 2005.

Finally, please remember that we are collecting "Pensil Stars". This is going really well (we are now up to Playdoh) so please keep bringing them in!!

BOWLS CLUB

Roll up

The Beryl James Trophy was played for on Sunday 12th September, the winning team being Kay Attwood, Julie Brain and Bryn Jones.

A real surprise on the evening of Tuesday 14th September. All members were called to the club for a special practice 'Roll-up' for the coming winter season. On arrival the surprise was especially for Pam Leather a stalwart of the club for eight years. Her husband, Brian, presented the club with a new bowling mat as a thank you for the support the club members have given to Pam in her long illness. Pam opened the evening by bowling the first woods on the new mat and will continue to use the mat bowling for the league team during the coming season.

New members are welcome Monday and Thursday afternoons and Wednesday evening. Enquiries to Chairperson, Doreen Jones.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

The branch standard will be in attendance at the local Remembrance Day services. Assembly times are: Milton War Memorial 10.45am; Steventon War Memorial 2.15pm, with a service at St Michael's and all Angels at 3pm; St Peter's Church Drayton 5.45pm.

A short service will be held at Steventon Methodist church at 10.45 am on Thursday 11th November with the silence at 11.00 am at the War Memorial, we hope you will be able to support this Special day or if not please 'Pause to Remember' at 11 o'clock

We are having our annual dinner at the Lantern Restaurant on Friday 19th November, so we hope you will come along and have an enjoyable evening with us; please ring Pat Bucklan on 831191 for details.

The next meeting is our A.G.M. on Monday 15th November at 7.30 pm so come along and show your support to your hard working committee

MORE ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Margaret Long

Our antiques evening on September 28th proved to be surprisingly different. Elaine Binnings, from Dreweatt Neate, Auctioneers and Valuers, put us through our paces by showing us a selection of antique pieces – plates, pictures, etc., and we then had to decide how old they were, whether they were real or fake, the country of origin and, finally, how much they were worth. Most of us got the answers completely wrong but the winner was Jean Hager. Unfortunately, she was not given an antique as a prize!

We then split up into groups, each group being given an antique and, having examined it, one member of each group acted as an expert on the Antiques Road Show. The object had to be described, its age and value, etc. We all, amazingly, did rather better on this one. We had a really fun evening and those of us who had brought antiques of our own were able to learn more about them and their value later in private at the back of the room.

We had already agreed to make Elaine Binnings' charity our own charity of the year and accordingly, she was given £100 to go to the Tom Haycraft's charity for young people and team sports.

Otherwise, everything for the moment continues as before with coffee mornings and whist evenings. We were prevented by poor weather from taking our walk on the 14th but we have hopes of better things next time.

Don't forget that as an experiment our meetings will change in the New Year to afternoons – so watch this space.

Dates for your diary in November: -

Mon 1st	10.30	COFFEE	Daphne Barrand, 30 Whitehorns Way
Mon 15th	7.15	WHIST	Janet Hendy Caudwell DC
Tue 30th	7.30	MEETING	Red Kites David Lovegrove

W.I.

Gwen Price

Our October meeting was called Colour Me Beautiful. We all thoroughly enjoyed it, as did our guests. The speaker, whose name was Angela, showed which blends of colour best suited each individual and which dress style suited our shape! It is amazing how many shades of colour there are. Margaret Sharpe was the lucky lady whom Angela made up and very good was the final result.

Our October coffee morning in aid of our charity P.A.C.E. was very successful. We hope to have another in the Day Centre ➔

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➔ on Saturday 6th November. Our popular Quiz night is on 12th November so start putting your team of four together. Our next meeting is called Glass Flowers.

Visitors and new member are always welcome. Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm at the village hall.

DRAYTON SCHOOL

Claire Soper

The School enjoyed this year's Harvest Festival with a special Family Assembly. We were joined by Claire Wren, from the Abingdon Church Group, who led the service. The School Council co-ordinated the recent 'Walk to School' week, which was part of a National event, and organised a school dinner survey for School Meals Week. Opinions were collected from the various classes about the meals which will be referred to Lynn our Cook.

The Lower Unit has welcomed former pupils Gemma West and Marc Pullen from John Mason School who are on a Work Experience placement. The children enjoyed making bread for Harvest and have spent more time on their Seaside theme, looking back to holidays 100 and 50 years ago. The Middle Unit has made a colourful exhibition of photographs from their visit to the Natural History Museum in Oxford. They have also been busy designing posters on the computers using Textease 2000, about different climatic regions of the world. Both Mrs Middleton and Mrs Allott are busy deciding how to spend the £91 raised recently by a F.O.D.S.A. cake sale for resources in the Middle Unit; thanks from them to everyone who supported the sale so well. The Upper Unit have also been busy making bread in Technology; there must have been some wonderful aromas in school! The children and parents have recently taken part in a sponsored walk and sale to help raise funds for the forthcoming trip to Yenworthy.

The school Football Team has entered several competitions and tournaments this season. They have been successful in the West Oxon Simsbury's small schools soccer sixes, coming top in their group and will now go forward to the County Finals. Excellent results all round well done to everyone concerned! Thanks again go to Richard Seemark for his dedication to training these rising stars! GOOD LUCK in the coming matches.


F.O.D.S.A. can report a positive start to this school year's fundraising with a massive £400 being raised at the Bingo evening, followed by £260 at the Disco. Thanks to everyone who supported these events and to the stalwart band of helpers who turned up to school on 17th October to assist with the Autumn clean up of the grounds; these days are much appreciated by the staff. There are currently vacancies on the schools Governing body for Community Governors. No previous experience is necessary and full training is provided. Main Governor Meetings take place in the evenings approximately four times a year, plus separate sub-committees meet in between. If you feel you may have something to offer and would like further information please contact either Ciaran Mc Donnell (Chair) or Claire Soper (Vice Chair) via school on 01235 531316 for an informal discussion and visit.

Finally a reminder of the Christmas Fair on Sunday 28th November in school from 12-3pm. Come along for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. LOTS of children's craft activities, pocket money toys and of course a visit from Father Christmas!

Yet more All Around on page 8 ➔



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YET MORE ALL AROUND

TABLE TENNIS CLUB Andrew Gould

Welcome to the new table tennis season; only a couple of weeks in and already there has been tonnes of excitement.

The A Team has got away to a great start, recording an impressive four wins from four games. The B Team has won one and drawn three. One of the games was a heated derby against the C Team which resulted in a 5 – 5 draw. It was a match that divided families, and after an epic battle Hudson junior (Robert) could only watch on as a relentless Hudson senior (David) stormed to victory. Robert has since been quoted as saying “He has had at least 50 years practise”. Sadly the C Team’s other three matches all ended in defeat. One of which was another (not so closely battled) derby which saw the A team record a 9 – 1 victory. The D team have played only twice, winning one and loosing the other.

Next we move onto the E team. Sadly for us guys its like being England in the European song contest. We currently have nil points. However I have seen an encouraging start from the young squad, many of whom are in their first season of table tennis.

I have been informed that there will be a quiz night in November. A date has not yet been arranged so keep an eye out for posters around the village, or ask a member of the club for more information

DRAYTON PLAYERS Jean Hager

As I write this, our production of ‘Come to the Music Hall’ is just days away and rehearsals are at fever pitch. So - more about this event in the next Chronicle.

In the odd spare moment (!) we have managed to get together for the first to read-through of our musical play planned for next February, based on the legend of Boudicca. Most of the casting is now sorted out - although a few more Roman soldiers and Icenii tribesmen would still be welcome. Give Richard Webber a call on 534 001 if you fancy joining in the fun. We are always pleased to welcome newcomers. ➔

MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?
 If so you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop in the week after normal delivery time.

WOODEN SPOON RECIPE - 4

Lois Rennells

(Cooked in September 1969)

Spiced Chops (serves 4 – 6)

- 4 – 6 pork chops (2 lb approx.)
- 1 oz butter or lard
- 4 – 6 whole cloves
- ½ lb tomatoes, peeled and sliced
- 1 lb onions, peeled and sliced
- 1½ level teaspoons curry powder
- ¼ level teaspoonful cinnamon
- ½ pint water
- Lemon juice
- clove garlic, peeled and crushed
- Salt and pepper

Trim chops free of excess fat. Fry in melted fat until well brown on each side. Remove chops from pan. Stick a clove in each one. Place in a shallow casserole, in a single layer. Cover with tomatoes.

Reheat fat in pan and sauté onions until coloured, stir in curry powder and cinnamon. Cook gently for 5 minutes, stirring. Add water and 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Bring to the boil, season well. Pour over chops. Add garlic, cover and cook in the oven at 325 (mark 3) for about 1½ hours.

Prepare the bananas by slitting slightly under-ripe bananas lengthways. Dip in lemon juice and fry in a little butter until slightly coloured but not mushy.

Serve with fried bananas, boiled rice and a green side salad.



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FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

Our next get-together will be on Tuesday 2nd November in St Peters Church Room and, if you are feeling lonely, isolated or in need of a bit of company, for whatever reason, why not come along and join us for a refreshing cuppa and friendly conversation. Drop in any time between 3.00 PM and 4:30 PM - you can be sure of a very warm welcome. If you need transport or would like to chat first, please give me a call on 531558. If you are not able to come along this time, the date of our following meeting will be Tuesday 7th December.

Geoffrey Oscar von Hoven

13.9.1924 - 27.9.2004

Geoff von Hoven was a Chemical Engineer by trade at the Esso Research Centre; he came to the village in 1952 following a period working at the Abadan Oil Refinery in Iraq. Initially renting 26 High Street, Geoff and Gillian bought some land from the late Harry Poulton, and Harry built their house on Chiers Drive in 1960. Geoff had many and varied interests throughout his life. He was instrumental in setting up the British Sub Aqua Club in the 1950's, being a member of the Northampton Branch for several years before starting the Reading Branch.

With the arrival of children his interests moved on from diving to sailing, and he became a regular sight in an "Enterprise" Sailing Dinghy at the Abbey Sailing Club, on the Thames. In 1964 the Drayton Players drama group was formed, and Geoff took on the role of lighting the plays in the WI Hall on Church Lane. As funds were very limited in the early years Geoff spent many hours making lanterns and props to make the plays a success. The WI Hall was taken on by the village and the Village Hall Management Committee formed to raise funds and work towards the building of the New Hall that the village has today. Geoff was the Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee for in excess of 20 years devoting many hours to improvements to the Hall and managing its upkeep.

His interest in theatrical lighting led to lighting plays for the Abingdon Drama Club in many venues including the Abbey Hall and the Unicorn Theatre in the Abbey Grounds. Very keen to maintain the Abingdon Drama Club and its clubhouse, he put considerable effort into the club and was made a Trustee 15 years ago.

The plays that brought Geoff into contact with the Abbey grounds and the Unicorn Theatre led him to become Vice-Chairman of the Friends of Abingdon. His major project at this time was the rewiring of the Unicorn Theatre, which he achieved in his spare time as well as supporting the many "Craft Fayres" in the Abbey Grounds. He held the post of Vice Chairman of the Friends of Abingdon for in excess of 20 years, and when ill health forced him to retire he was made Honorary Vice- President.

In his retirement from Esso, Geoff became a pivotal member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Restoration Group. He could be found many weekends driving the tractors and diggers to re-excavate the canal. The efforts of the groups labours can be seen at Wantage. During the weekdays he would concentrate on rebuilding the equipment used at the weekends and also managed to fit in the restoration of several vehicles for his own use. A keen engineer he liked projects that gave him a challenge. One such project was the restoration of the Church cockerel weather vane on top of St Peters Church in Drayton.

Sadly Geoff died peacefully in his sleep on 27th September after a period of deteriorating health. Geoff's funeral service was held on 8th October in a packed Drayton church. He leaves behind his wife and two sons and their families. The whole family wish to thank the village for their sympathy on his death and especially for the support offered during the last years of his life. ➔

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➔ A big thank you to all those who contributed to the collection for the Abingdon Alzheimers Club both before and at the funeral. The total raised will be published in due course.

TAKE CHARGE OF LITTER **Carole Chapman**

Ever felt annoyed when you see litter on the ground and wanted to do something about it? Well now the Vale of White Horse District Council are providing information and equipment to enable community-spirited people to collect litter.

Although the Council provides a street cleansing service, their resources are limited: Therefore the Council are looking for local people and community groups to extend this service further, in the interest of protecting and improving the environment. Can you help? You may be part of an environmental group who wants to make a difference to a local scenic area, or maybe you belong to a group who is looking for an opportunity to raise money for charity, or you maybe an individual who just wants to make a difference.

The Guidance on Voluntary Litter Picking booklet gives guidance on the hazards and precautions of picking litter, other useful information, details of how to get the equipment and how to get the sacks of litter collected by the Councils contractors Cleanaway. The equipment consists of litter pickers, a high visibility vest, gloves and some sacks.

So, if you want to Take Charge and make a difference, call Carole Chapman on 01235 520202 or write to The Waste Team, Vale of White Horse District Council, Abbey House, Abingdon, OX14 3JN, or email waste.team@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

DIDCOT DEVELOPMENT INQUIRY **Terry Stock**

A Public Local Inquiry will be held to consider objections made in accordance with the Town and County Planning (Development Plan) (England) Regulations 1999 to the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2011. The Inspector appointed to hold the Inquiry is Mr N A Payne BSc (Hons), DipTP, MRTPI, MCMI.

The Inquiry will be in two stages: stage one will deal with all the proposals and policies in the Plan relating to development to the west of Didcot. This will be held during November and December in South Oxfordshire District Council's Offices at Crowmarsh Gifford (unless stated otherwise) and will sit from Tuesday to Friday, from 10.00 am to approximately 5.00 pm. The timetable is:

23rd to 26th November; SODC Offices
30th November to 3rd December; SODC Offices
7th and 8th December; SODC Offices
9th December; evening only, Didcot Civic Centre
10th December; SODC Offices
14th and 15th December, SODC Offices
16th December, Didcot Civic Centre

Further details of stage one and details of the timing of objections to be considered can be obtained from the Programme Officer, Mr Tom Currie, telephone 01491 823766, by email to lpprogram.officer@southoxon.gov.uk or by writing to him at the Programme Office, Planning Services, South Oxfordshire District Council, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, OX10 8NJ. Once the dates and arrangements for stage two are available they will be published on the Council's website www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk



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COUNCIL REPORTS: 1

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Grahame Ash

Local planning issues (1)

Despite approval being given for the building of dwellings on the Barton garage site, a further application has been made by the agents. This is a similar application to one made some while ago, which was refused by the Committee. We will wait and see what happens. One day there may be a building on this site.

Local Planning Issues (2)

Planning sometimes requires some very difficult decisions. On occasions it is not possible to satisfy both the applicant and the neighbours. I mention this because just recently there have been two decisions by the Development Control Committee, (who are responsible for planning decisions in the Vale) which I believe are out of character in the district. Firstly I should mention that the committee is composed of 17 councillors from the two parties. Decisions are not normally political; certainly there is no whip on the Lib Dem councillors. The two decisions with which I don't agree are the approval of the new Co-op building in West St. Helens Street and the other is the conservatory at the rear of the East St Helens Street. The latter can easily be seen from the south bank of the river. However, I am not a regular member of the committee but was asked to substitute for a Cllr who was unable to attend a meeting recently. The planning application for the conservatory had to be reviewed because the applicant had not complied with the plans lodged. This was now a matter of law enforcement. The problem was the conservatory was higher, albeit only slightly higher, than the plans submitted. The building, although of a wooden structure had been painted a brilliant white and looked more like a plastic extension, and in my opinion totally out of character with nearby buildings. The Vale had the legal authority to demand the building be taken down. I suggested the building be allowed to stand on condition the wood was painted a colour that was more in keeping with its surroundings. After some discussion it was agreed that a slightly softer line be agreed upon, and so the Enforcement Officer will be looking to negotiate a settlement with the applicant to tone down the starkness of the extension, and report back accordingly to the Committee.

At the meeting, an application from the Abingdon Bowls Club to turn their disused tennis court at Albert Park into another bowling green was considered. Some councillors felt that →

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⇒ there would be loss of amenities to the general public by sectioning this area off; whilst acknowledging this view, my opinion was that the overgrown grass tennis court is not used as an amenity, its chain wire fencing is an eyesore and a "shrubby enclosed Bowling Green" would be more in keeping with the rest of the park. By one vote the application was lost. It is likely an appeal or further (modified) application will be made.

Abingdon Integrated Transport System Update (Abits)

At the last full council meeting, there was all-party support for the Liberal Democrats motion to call on the County Council to confirm its support for a second river crossing for Abingdon and for a full interchange on the A34 at Lodge Hill in both directions. The view is that if we don't start making plans now neither will happen. You will perhaps recall that originally access to the A34 at Drayton was also considered, but it has since been recognised that this would cause a number of local problems, particularly inviting more traffic into the village from all directions.

Skate Park Facilities

For the younger members of the Community the council has recognised a need to provide a Skate Park facility in Abingdon. Originally the intention was to have two smaller facilities, one in the north and one in the south, but now the thinking is to have one "super" skate park. There are now five sites under consideration, of which one is at Drayton Road. For residents' peace of mind, I should mention that one condition is that the park will be more than 100m from the nearest dwelling.

Finally, my 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.

Regards

Grahame Ash

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COUNCIL REPORTS: 2

PARISH COUNCIL

Daniel Scharf

Meeting on 4th October 2004

As at the last meeting, concern was expressed by villagers about the access created across the Green at Sutton Wick and another villager questioned the response in last month's Chronicle to the 'scribe' who had recalled the proposal of some 40 years ago to build a new town in this area. Although it was the development of Grove that took place instead then, from reports of the very significant housing land requirements coming from the regional planning body it is difficult to believe that this area will not be looked at again. This round of structure and local plans have no such proposals but we will soon be looking at the new Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Development Framework when the input from this and other parish councils in the Didcot area will have to be on their guard.

It is good to report that the role of Parish Clerk seems to have landed in the capable hands of Marie Sellwood and we all hope that she can cope with the volume of the work; that was also the subject of comment from the public gallery.

Of the planning applications discussed, the most notable was the electricity generation plant that is to be built at Sutton Wick to burn methane from the decomposing landfill. This will provide sufficient electricity for 900 homes for about 10 years. Waste disposal by landfill was also a topic that was discussed at the meeting held in Abingdon by the County Council to explain that we are all going to have to change the way in which we deal with waste. European legislation is outlawing landfill at the same time as the availability of suitable holes is drying up in any event. The speakers went through the range of technical alternatives. As all of these will involve us as buyers of packaged goods and creators of waste, the public are being informed and asked about their preferences so that we are more likely to cooperate with the needed changes in lifestyle that will be more readily accepted. The consultation process is involving parish councils and the general public and anybody who wants to get involved in this debate and perhaps increase their influence, would be welcome at a meeting of the parish council. The County Council will be looking for locations for the new facilities whether these are for incinerators/power plants, sorting of waste, composting, gasification or any other part of the reduce, reuse, recycling, or disposal process.

The next meeting of the Council is on 1st November at 7.45 at the Caudwell Day Centre. As always, members of the public are very welcome to attend.

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PATHWAYS; PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS

Drayton has a marvellous network of village and field paths, easily accessible and quite well used. All need constant maintenance and we are fortunate that our village caretaker, Steve Sharpe, has done such an excellent job in keeping them free of nettles and other growth during this year's warm, wet summer

Stiles are often a problem, taking a beating from horses and other animals, and walkers will have noticed that some of our stiles on local footpaths have become broken or in a dangerous state.



However, there is some good news. The Parish Council has shared the costs with the Oxfordshire County Council and four new kissing gates are being installed. Two have made the path through Sherwoods Farm accessible once again by replacing a gate east of Sutton Wick Lane on FP 18 and also the broken stile a little further to the east. A third (being tested by Alison below) has replaced a stile on FP 16 which crosses the fields beyond the burial ground towards the bridleway. The fourth is due to replace the broken stile above (on the same path) in the near future.



These improvements will mean that it is possible to do one of the pleasantest circular walks around Drayton and Sutton Wick without difficulty; I hope that many people will enjoy doing so.

Jenny Pooley, Parish Council Rights-of-Way Working Group

DRAYTON DIARY

FOR NOVEMBER

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

Regular Events are listed opposite

Mon	1	7.45 pm	Parish Council	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Sat	6	9.00 am	Councillor G Ash surgery (until 10.00 am)	
		9.00 am	Private Meeting (until 6.00 pm)	
Mon	8	8.00 pm	Drayton Hall Committee	
Tues	9	5.00 pm	DAMASCUS Bus (and following weeks)	
Fri	12	7.30 pm	W.I. Quiz Night	
Sat	13	2.00 pm	Baptist Christmas Bazaar (until 4.00 pm)	
Sat	20		Wedding Reception	
Mon	22	9.15 am	Chronicle Lottery deadline	<i>Vickery's</i>
		5.15 pm	Chronicle copy deadline	<i>Vickery's box</i>
Sat	27	10.00 am	St Peter's Christmas Fair	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	28	noon	School Christmas Fair	<i>School</i>
Mon	29	8.00 pm	Drayton Enterprises Meeting	

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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>
12.30 pm	Pre-School Playgroup afternoon session	
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 / slimming class	
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30pm	Youth Club (until 9.30pm)	
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1 1/2 hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>

TUESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Tues in the month)	

WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Parent and Toddler Service	<i>Church Room</i>
2.00 pm	Whist - now each week	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.15 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>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green Car Pk</i>
2.00 pm	Darby & Joan Club	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
4.00 pm	Dancing Classes (3 to 6 years). Tel: 764433	
6.30 pm	8/12 Club (1st & 3rd Thursday in the month)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	
8.00 pm	Wilt/Berks Canal Group (3rd Thursday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>

FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (to 3.30) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.15pm	Choir Practice	<i>St Peter's</i>

SUNDAYS

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

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