

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 28 No. 1

Jan / Feb 2005

CHARITY FUNDRAISER NEEDED

Abingdon Charities Working Together launched at the end of November. This group of five local charities is seeking to raise regular donations and was started entirely from volunteer efforts, backed by the charities and a grant from The Giving Campaign.

Now, with the first donations coming in, they are **looking** for a local person interested in helping to develop the momentum. This **paid work** entails some administration and organising events, as well as meeting and talking to local businesses and individuals. Previous experience in a customer service or sales environment would be helpful but is not essential, as full training and support will be provided.

This job would suit someone with a **few hours per week** spare if you are working part time or have other commitments or responsibilities. Or perhaps you have **retired** and are looking for an **interesting alternative type of work** with the opportunity to make a real difference within your own community. Contact 07881 644388 or email info@acwt.org.uk. There are further details on the website www.acwt.org.uk

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL WARDEN

(Vale of White Horse District Council)

David Coates - Environment Warden

I wish to introduce myself as the recently appointed Environmental Warden for the Vale of the White Horse District Council. I operate anywhere within the district council area, and my hours of duty are normally between 8am and 4pm, although there is some flexibility within this system.

My duties include enforcing the law which relates to:- fly tipping, fly posting, persons who deposit litter, and, with effect from the 10th January 2005, I will be assuming all responsibility for lost and found dogs from the existing contractor, including persons who allow their dogs to foul footpaths and open spaces.

Since this is a new post, I am looking to inform members of the public about what my duties will include. To this end I am rather hoping that the **various groups which meet in the area** might allow me a few minutes to **address them** and possibly answer any questions which may arise.

I can be contacted on the following telephone numbers:- 07909 535 558 or 01235 520202 .

GET WRITING

Deddington Writers Group, in conjunction with Deddington Festival 2005, is organising a writing competition in three categories:-

short story (1500 words),

non-fiction (1000 words),

poem (up to 36 lines) on the theme of **FESTIVAL**.

Entrants must be Oxfordshire residents. Entry fee:- £2 (under-16 entrants in non-fiction and poetry categories, free).

Send SAE for full details and entry form to:- DWG Competition, 26 The Daedings, Deddington, Oxon OX15 0RT;

Or contact:- daeda@clara.co.uk Closing date: April 16th.

TABLE TOP SALE

DON'T FORGET – FRIDAY FEBRUARY 4th

@ Drayton Community Primary School from 3pm

In Aid Of :- The ASIAN TSUNAMI and

BAND AID Appeals

Raffle / Cakes / Bric a Brac / Refreshments

Please come and SUPPORT us – THANK YOU

Ins and outs P6 Volunteers please P9 Tuesday Company P5 Santa's little helpers? P7 Who won? P2
Some say Boadicea? P3 PAWS ? P8 No need to be alone P4 Not on the plain, unlikely to rain P9

DRAYTON PLAYERS PRESENT THE LEGEND OF THE BOUDICCA

A MUSICAL PLAY
BY

RICHARD WEBBER & ED RUSSEL

THURSDAY 17TH, FRIDAY 18TH & SATURDAY 19TH FEBRUARY
STARTING AT 7.30 AT DRAYTON HALL

TICKETS £5

TO BOOK TELEPHONE (01235) 200350

COMING CHRONICLES

The **March Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, February 25th**, from **Helen Brasington, 1, Cheers Farm, (534045)**, who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Derek Pooley, 11 Halls Close, (559454)**. Contributions may be e-mailed (see below), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, February 14th 2005.

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

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

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

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/10th page)

Advertiser	Number of Inserts				Small Advert
Category:	1	3	6	12	per word
Drayton Resident	£4.00	£10.50	£21.50	£40.00	3p
Non-Drayton Resident	£5.00	£13.50	£27.00	£50.00	4p

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

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

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

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

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE JANUARY LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	S Field, 36 Lockway	Barbara Carter
£20	Mrs Purrott, 58 Steventon Rd	Jackie Walker
£15	Mr Gadsden, Greenacres	Tom Shebbeare
£10	P Cox, c/o 26 Lockway	Barbara Carter
£10	Mrs Dixon, 5 Lockway	Jenny Pooley
£10	Buckell, 8 Corneville Rd	Gerald Redman
£10	Mrs Perry, 1 Lockway	Jenny Pooley
£10	Pitts, 63 Abingdon Rd	Jayne Henderson
£10	Mrs Gurdev, 68 Whitehorns Way	Daphne Barrand
£10	Mrs King, 5 Haywards Rd	Judith Dunster

Winning tickets, from a total of 2186 sold, were drawn in Vickery's Shop by staff and customers (including some from Lockway, judging by where some of the prizes are going !!)

THE FOLLOWING THREE MONTHS

Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs by Monday:-	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:-
April	14 March 2005	24 March 2005
May	18 April 2005	29 April 2005
June	16 May 2005	27 May 2005

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FAX: 01235 531217

ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Margaret Long

Once again, it is time to wish you all a very happy New Year and hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas. Don't the years fly by?

We had a **splendid Christmas party** in the Caudwell Day Centre in December with sherry, mince pies, games and various humorous readings. Mary Alexander's drawing game was enormous fun and I am glad to say none of us had heard of the public houses we were trying to draw. Thanks to everyone who helped with arranging this most enjoyable evening, I think everyone was pleased with their little gifts.

And now the new year is upon us. Don't forget that subscriptions will be due at our January meeting and that **until further notice** our meetings will take place on the **last Wednesday afternoon** in each month 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

Please note for our birthday lunch at the Steventon House Hotel in February a choice of menu will be distributed quite soon. Please make **your choice and payment by 7th February**.

Dates for your diary: -

January

Wed 26th 2.00 MEETING *The Mitford Girls* Norman Francis

February

Mon 7th 10.30 COFFEE Christine Radburn, High St
 Mon 21st 7.15 WHIST Joyce Simmonds, Caudwell D C
 Wed 23rd 12 (for 12.30) BIRTHDAY LUNCH Steventon House Hotel

Margaret welcomes you to
Sabina's for your next hair appointment

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

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

Men's hair-dressing on Mondays, 6.30 to 8.00 pm, when appointments aren't necessary, so why not call in?

Special rates for Pensioners and Free Car Parking

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Glenn & Janet welcome you

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 Monday to Saturday

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The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

At our recent AGM newly appointed officers were Chairman Mr Pat Bucklan and Vice Chairman Mr Tony Ireson; all other officers were returned unopposed.


Our annual dinner was well supported and a great success, so we hope this will continue to be an event that you will tell your friends about and join us in the future.

This year we were joined by the National Vice Chairman, who said he was pleased to be attending a small branch function and proud that he could present the Legion's highest honour for devoted service over many years to me on behalf of my late husband David. I felt honoured and privileged to receive this, and will endeavour to carry on with the good work as in the past.

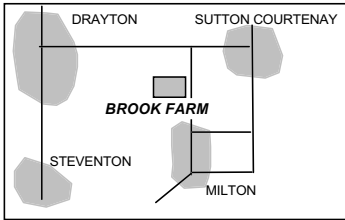
Even though we have no club, we are recognised as a very efficient and thriving branch, so we hope that you will continue to support us in the future.

The next Committee meeting will be on Monday 21st Feb at 8pm.

HAVE YOU TRIED OUR FREE RANGE EGGS?



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 Brook Farm, Milton Road



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 Except Friday.....9.00am to 6.00pm

FREE RANGE EGGS, & POTATOES (if available)

Our own lamb available May to December

DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

By the time you read this, we shall be into the final weeks of rehearsal for our next musical play **The Legend of Boudicca**.

After the Christmas break, we are now steaming ahead with both words and music, and the large cast is working very hard.

We look forward to welcoming you to our new production, in Drayton Hall, on **February 17th, 18th or 19th** (Thurs to Sat).

PLEASE NOTE there will be NO Saturday matinee this time as we feel this play to be unsuitable for children under 10.

For full details and ticket enquiries, **please contact Sue Stevens (200350)**.

This is an unusual and interesting play, based on the myth of Queen Boudicca's stand in ancient Britain against the Roman army; it has been written by Richard Webber (who gave us Hooray Henley last year), with musical content composed in collaboration with Ed Russell, who is also our director. **We invite you to come along - and ENJOY!**

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge:- Revd Sister Josie Midwinter (Feb 24).....531374

Licensed Lay Minister:- Dr Peter Barton (away 'til 7/2/05).. 523702

Churchwardens:- Mrs Sue Harris848361
Mr Peter Cline530519

Organist & Choirmaster :- Mr Adrian Thompson 01865 714801

CHURCH NOTICES

REGULAR SERVICES

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

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Sunday Pebbles & Rocks	Church Room
Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Friday	7.00 pm	Choir Practice (Alt Fridays)	Church Room

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

Tues 4th	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sun 9th	6.30 pm	St Peters UN-Limited	Church Room
Sun 16th	11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods	
Wed 19th	7.30 pm	Ecumenical Service for Christian Unity	
Sun 30th	4.00 pm	Christingle Service	

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

Tues 1st	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Wed 9th	7.30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service	
Sun 13th	11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods	
	6.30 pm	St Peters UN-Limited	Church Room
Thur 24th	7.30 pm	Licensing of Revd Sister Josie Midwinter	

PARISH REGISTER

Marriage	Dec 31st	Gary Worden & Charlotte Haywood
Funeral	Dec 11th	Ileen Hicks
	Dec 17th	Charles Robert Jones
Burial of Ashes	Dec 4th	David William Stanbridge

YOU STAY - WE PRAY

During this time we will pray for all the people who live and work in these roads:-

26 Dec – 1 Jan:- Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippington Court; Stone Hill.

2 – 15 Jan:- Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway MHP;

16 – 22 Jan:- Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane; **23 Jan – 5 Feb:-** Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road; **6 – 12 Feb:-** Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive; **13 – 26 Feb:-** Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green;

27 Feb – 5 Mar:- High St; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close.

ST PETER'S CHURCH HOME-VISITING GROUP

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

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



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Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

Christmas finishes today (I am writing this on January 6 - Epiphany) and many of us are probably sighing with relief that it is now behind us - the choosing of presents, decorating the house, the cooking of all the meals, writing and posting all the cards, the tidying up. It is too easy for Christmas - the real Christmas - to be submerged.

We have to remind ourselves, amid all the commercialism, that this is the time when Jesus was born for us. Jesus is THE gift of Christmas and, because He is a gift, it means that we have somehow been chosen to receive Him.

Most of the year, the Church tends to focus on the adult Jesus, His teaching, His stories, His example. It is only at Christmas that the Church concentrates on Jesus the infant. (Is this why we say that Christmas is about children?). Like all newborn children, He is helpless. And like all newborn babies, it is this helplessness that appeals to us, makes us love them and makes us joyful.

Then on Boxing Day, we awoke to the news of the Tsunami disaster. The scale of the devastation is impossible to take in, despite the TV and newspaper coverage. We all know from our own limited experience how powerful and destructive water can be. The Bible tells of the Flood, Noah's Ark and the parting of the Red Sea.

Our joy seemed shortlived and yet, out of all the suffering and hardship, hope and concern for others appeared almost immediately. The response of people worldwide has been staggering. They may not understand but they want to help, to comfort, to send healing and to aid those who have lost everything. Irrespective of religion or race, people have come together. Warring sides in civil wars have set aside their differences and are co-operating.

At the moment, the world seems intent on following the Second Commandment - 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. And the story of the Good Samaritan clearly tells us that everyone is our neighbour and we must be concerned about their wellbeing. Isn't it a tragedy that it has taken a tragedy to bring the world to its senses and, as it were, to make it realise its true responsibilities. Let us pray that once things begin to improve, this global caring will continue.

When the song of the angels is stilled
when the star in the sky has gone
when the kings and princes are home
when the shepherds are back in their fields
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost
to heal the broken
to feed the hungry
to release the prisoner.

Tom Oliver

(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton TODDLER GROUP Anna Loughlin

Happy New Year and best wishes for 2005!

The Christmas Party was a huge success again! The children thoroughly enjoyed party games and Christmas goodies, the entertainment from Rosie, and were enthralled by a visit from Santa! The adults tucked into mince pies while trying their luck on the Tombola, and a great time was had by all. Many thanks to all the Mums and Dads who lent a helping hand.

Toddler Group is a great place to bring your little ones (0-5) as mums can relax while their children play in a safe, stimulating environment. There is a good selection of toys, games, puzzles and creative activities to occupy the children.

For mums, Toddler Group offers a change of scenery and a chance for a friendly chat with a lovely group of mums and carers.

Toddler Group runs on **Tuesday and Thursday morning** from 9.30am to 11.30am. You **can turn up any time** and will be made very welcome, so come along!



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Please ring for an appointment

Letters to the Editor

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

Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club Andrew Gould

We are now half way through the season and the 5 teams have had differing fortunes. The A Team are top of 2nd Division and with Didcot Power Station their only serious rivals they should finish in the top two and get promotion. The B Team are just above mid table in the 2nd Division and have recently knocked the A team out of the League Team Handicap tournament. Our C Team, also in 2nd Division, are currently bottom but performances are improving and they have won twice recently. They have quality in the team and should hopefully pull themselves clear.

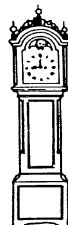
Drayton D are in Division 3, they have been inconsistent and are also a few games behind their rivals. Currently at the wrong end of the table they should pull clear when they catch up on games. They are also through in the Handicap tournament.

Our junior E Team side are enjoying their 1st season of league Table Tennis. Under the Captancy of Beverley Rayner they have all won individual matches but are yet to record a team win. That may happen when they play the best team in the whole League – BR Oxford Fireplace Centre 'B' who are top of the 1st Division. The two teams meet in the Handicap Tournament and our lot will get a good start. The match will have been played when you read this but hopefully they have become our third team through to round 2!

Finally an apology from my last jottings. I'd like to send an apology to Mr Hudson Senior (David). It appears in the frantic rush to hit the editor's strict deadline a typing error may have slipped past my usually high standard proof-read.

Mr Hudson has not had 50 years experience on the Ping Pong Circuit but in fact only a youthful 30 years! David also informs me that as he is currently under the age of 50 it would have been impossible for my statement of November to be in any way true!!

Once again sorry, better efforts will be made to ensure such events never happen again.



**CLOCK REPAIRS
AND RESTORATION**

DAVID N. BENN

Fellow, British Horological Institute

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FREE ESTIMATES, COLLECTION & DELIVERY

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

At the time of writing we have just enjoyed our first meeting together of the new year. In spite of the wintry weather, the Church Room was full, and we all enjoyed some delicious Christmas cake with our tea.

If you have been hesitating about coming along to join us, why not contact me for a chat first and I can give you more details of our sessions. If you're feeling **lonely, isolated or in need of company** for whatever reason, you are warmly invited to come along to our drop-in tea and chat afternoon held monthly, at St. Peter's Church Room, on the first Tuesday from 3 to 4.30 pm. Just drop in for a while and try us out.

Our next two dates are 1st February and 1st March, we look forward to meeting you then. If you need transport please call me (Jean Hager) on 531558.

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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)

The **Baptist Church Bazaar** at the Village Hall in November raised £305 which will go to church funds; **thanks** to everyone who came along on the day to buy things, and also to everyone who donated the items to be sold.

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

Next Family Service is Feb 6th, leading the service **Janet Strong**.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

WELCOME to Stella Coulling, who has moved into 26 Binning Close.

And to Steve & Karen Harvey, at 8 Steventon Road.

Dorothy Davies, who formerly lived in the High Street and who now lives with her son and family in the Highwayman Inn at Peel in the Isle of Man, sends this message in Manx to all her old Drayton friends.

Dy der y Ulein Noa diu shee as cunys

(May the New Year bring you peace and joy).

And – sadly – Condolences to the wife and family of Brian Sadler (Whitehorns Way), who passed away on December 29th.

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SOMETHING TASTY?

Wooden Spoon Recipe No. 6 - From Sept 1973

Brandy Sweet (serves 5 – 6)

Finely grated rind and flesh of two large oranges

3 sliced bananas - 2 dessertspoons brandy

1 ½ - 2 ozs caster sugar - ½ pint double cream

little grated chocolate;

Chop orange segments into small pieces. Whip cream and sugar together until stiff. Stir in fruit, orange rind and brandy. Turn into glasses and decorate with grated chocolate. Keep in fridge for two hours and serve immediately.

Lois Rennells

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ARE YOU IN THE DARK ?

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

YOUR LETTERS

Do you believe in Santa?!

Dear Sir,

High Street

On the evening of Dec 23, 2004 the High Street seemed to have an early visit from Santa or some of his helpers as on the morning of Dec 24th there appeared outside our house the bottom half of an extension ladder propped up against the porch. Also one of the conifers had disappeared from its tub by the front door.

On further investigation the conifer was found on the front doorstep of our next-door neighbour, obviously the reindeer did not like this as fodder and it was abandoned.

The conifer was replanted and seems no worse for its experience but I still have this extension ladder waiting for its owner to collect. So if anybody is missing the first stage of an extension ladder please contact Colin on 531572 to arrange collection.

Yours Faithfully

Colin Smith

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Grateful Thanks

Dear Sir,

Caudwell Close

Many thanks to all my friends and neighbours who celebrated my 70th birthday with me on Saturday Dec 11th.

In particular I would like to thank all those people who prepared the hall, and the food and drinks.

And a special thank you for all the lovely flowers and presents.

Yours Faithfully

Marjorie Wiblin

☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Friday Club

SHEILA & SYLVIA would like to thank all of the cooks and drivers for their help during the last year. Without their help we could not run so well.

Thanks also to the people who stand in for us if we cannot be there, or if we need more help.

Thank You ALL.

Yours Faithfully

Sheila & Sylvia

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What's in a Name?!

Dear Sir,

Caudwell Close

Re your request for names for Drayton's lovely walks.

I have only lived in Drayton for 5 years, but married a Drayton girl.

Though I lived in Abingdon as a youth, I often visited Drayton. In particular a family of Faulkners who lived at the terminus of Sutton Wick. They had a tennis court, which I see is not in use.

Both my wife and I have always referred to the lane between Church Lane and Sutton Wick as Faulkners'.

This may not be the correct name, but it is a suggestion.

Yours Faithfully

Peter D Purbrick

☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

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SCHOOL REPORT

by *Claire Soper*

The close of the Christmas Term ended on several high notes with a wonderful Christmas present of £200 from UKAEA (Harwell) 50/50 sponsorship fund celebrating 50 years of UKAEA, which will be spent on the continuing refurbishment at school.

The Christmas Fair in November raised £800!! Which was a fantastic effort especially as there seemed to be fewer people attending this year, thank you to everyone who helped / came.

The school plays 'Are we there yet?' and 'The Snow Queen' were enjoyed by full audiences, and congratulations must go to everyone concerned for the stunning productions.

We returned to school on the 5th January with the Asian earthquake very much uppermost in people's minds, the children said special prayers in assembly on the 7th January.

A **whole school event** is being planned for **Friday 4th Feb** at 3pm to **raise money for the survivors of the Tsunami** and the **Band Aid appeal** for Africa; we hope that as many villagers as possible will support this event (see separate advert on page 1).

We enter Term 3 as we now call it!! I am able to report on a very full and exciting curriculum:- The Lower Unit will be investigating pushes and pulls and vehicles in Technology, they will also be finding out about the world of Marco Polo in Geography; The Middle Unit have started work on moving monsters for their Technology, which has certainly gripped some of the boys' imagination, in History they will be studying the Tudors and finding out why Henry VIII married so many times! They will also work on what life was like for rich and poor people.

The School Council is also very active, they are working towards a Silver Eco Award and are planning lots of energy saving initiatives later this year.

They are co-ordinating a **collection of old mobile phones for Kidney Research. Phones of any condition** can be left in a special box in the School office.

Finally **PAWS After School Club** continues to provide **excellent facilities** for children daily, Mon-Fri from 3pm to 5.30pm. The cost is £5.00 per session, which at less than £2.50 an hour represents **GREAT VALUE** for money!

Initially set up for working parents, it is now available to **all children from ages 4 to 11**. There are currently **vacancies** on Tuesdays and Fridays, please contact Mrs Beverley Rayner for more details on 01235 202417.

(As promised I include Anna's report from the recent canoeing trip to Yenworthy) >>>>>>>

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School Wet 'n Wild Day Out

by *Anna Gimigliano*

On Tuesday November 23rd, at Yenworthy, we went canoeing at Wistlandpound.

First we helped the staff to carry the canoes down to the lake. They were very heavy! We had to find a way of joining two canoes together using a log and two or three bits of rope.

We put the log across both the canoes and then used the rope to tie it to the canoes. Once we had done that it was checked to make sure it was stable then we went out onto the lake in it! It was called the wet'n wild day out, and we could all see why! We came back drenched.

We had to follow the pirate treasure map to find boxes around the lake. During that if we got near another canoe we got them very wet and they did the same to us. Pete, one of the Yenworthy staff, went round in a speed boat to make waves for us. Once we had been to all four boxes we had races. The first race was to see who could get to the other side of the lake first. Next we did a game where teams threw a ball at other peoples' canoe, and you had to try and make sure it didn't hit your canoe. Everybody had a lot of fun, even **Mrs Higgs** although she got a lot wetter than most people!

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PARISH COUNCIL (meeting Dec 6)

In the public speaking session, concern was expressed about the state of Sutton Wick Lane. The County Council are being asked to investigate the damage that is being done to the verges, and the rights of the vehicles at Sherwood Farm that are responsible for causing the overrunning.

David Hudson, the PC representative on the school governors, described the restructuring of the school to address the reduced number of children that promises to become a permanent state of affairs. Staff and pupil numbers are down and hopefully the reuse of some of the space will mean that the facilities will be improved including a room for the Head and a disabled toilet. **There are currently vacancies for governors** and anybody interested in this very important part of the village community should **contact Pauline Higgs** at the school.

The **Boundary Commissioners have not accepted** either the objections or the counter proposal made by the Council to the incorporation of Drayton into an Abingdon ward for County Council elections. The Council will have 3 months to consider whether there are grounds to legally challenge this decision.

The Council noted the intention of **Thames Water** to invest about £25 million in feasibility studies into the reservoir to the west of the village and A34.

Together with the housing pressures in the Didcot area, traffic calming measures, and the possibility of through ticketing on the bus services, there is no shortage of issues in which the Parish Council will be involved over the next few years. It is likely that each or all of these issues will be of very great interest to the village when they 'hit the street' and it would be very helpful to have a **full complement of Parish Councillors to represent** the views of the village.

Anybody interested should come to the next meeting at the Caudwell Day Centre on **7 February** at 7.45 pm to bring an issue for discussion or just to watch.

Also, we would like to give plenty of advance notice of the next **Parish Annual Meeting**, which will be held on **4 April**; all those living in the parish are invited to hear what has happened in the last 12 months and to say what they think about it.

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NB In Feb & March, dates are exactly the same

Abingdon (3rd Monday) – Feb 21st

Didcot (2nd Sat) - Feb 12th

Newbury (1st Sunday) – Feb 6th

Oxford – Gloucester Green (1st Thursday) – Feb 3rd

Reading (1st & 3rd Sats) – Feb 5th / 19th

Wantage (last Sat) – Feb 26th

Woodstock (1st Sat) - Feb 5th

TVFM news - ring 0870 241 4762 - website Tvmf.org.uk

Usually the markets run from about 8.30 am until lunchtime,
Newbury market is on a Sunday and starts about 9.

NEW YEARS'S EVE PARTY - Charity Donation

Dot Day tells us that £100 Funds from this event at Drayton Hall were donated to the TSUNAMI appeal, so **WELL DONE** to both party-goers and workers involved!

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS :-

Parish (Chairman) Paul Knight (531678);

District (VofWH) Grahame Ash (07817 220736);

& Oxfordshire County Margaret Mackenzie (847341).

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT – MARCH 1st to 13th

Advance Notice – for your Diary – Action Aid Coffee Morning – St Peter's Church on Sat March 5th (10 to noon). Buying these goods (you can sample at the coffee morning) means third-world producers are paid a fair price for their produce, so helping some of the world's poorest families and communities to become self-sustaining.

(Oh, and don't forget the usual monthly sale of Fair-Trade goods at the Church on Sun, Feb 13th, about 11.15am).



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No pool, but Olympic sized municipal pool is 5 minutes walk away.

One elderly, neutered, male cat, very loving, to be fed twice a day (never leaves the house). ~~Daniel Scharf~~ also prepared to look after animals (within reason !). Ideally, swap should include use of car.

Happy to send photos to genuinely interested prospects.

If interested, please e-mail adrian.walker@terra.es or call Tony Holmes on 531180 to arrange further contact details.

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DIARY FOR FEBRUARY

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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

NB	If your event isn't listed, IT COULD HAVE BEEN!!!		
Tues 1	3.00pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Fri 4	3.00pm	Sale in aid of Tsunami appeal	School
Sat 5	9.00am	District Councillor 'Surgery'	
Mon 7	7.45pm	Parish Council Meeting	Caudwell DC
Sat 12		Private Party	
Sun 13	11.15am	Fair-Trade sale (after service)	St Peter's
Sun 13		Players' set-up (also 14/15/16th)	
Mon 14	5.00pm	CHRONICLE DEADLINE	Vickery's
Thur 17	7.30pm	Players' Shows (see P1) also 18/19th	
Sun 20		Players' clear-up	
Tues 22	11.30am	Blood Clinic (until 8.30pm)	
Sat 26		Private Party	

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REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
1.30 pm	Afternoon Social	Caudwell Day Centre
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
5.45 pm	Beavers (Boys / girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.00 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Youth Club (until 9.30)	Small Hall
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	School
7.45 pm	Parish Council Meeting (1st Mon? – see report)	CDC
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	St Peter's Church

TUESDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	Caudwell Day Centre
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	School
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	School
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	School
7.30 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Tues in the month)	

WEDNESDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
10.30 am	Parent and Toddler Service	Church Room
2.00 pm	Whist – now each week	Caudwell Day Centre
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.00 pm	Brownies	
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	St Peter's Lady Chapel
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.00 pm	Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour)	School
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	Caudwell Day Centre
8.00 pm	Senior Table Tennis	School

THURSDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Lady Chapel
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	Haywards Rd
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	The Green Car Pk
2.00 pm	Darby & Joan Club	Caudwell Day Centre
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
4.00 pm	Dancing Classes – 3 to 6 years Tel 764433	
6.30 pm	8/12 Club (1 st & 3 rd Thursday in month)	School
7.45 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing	
8.00 pm	Wilt/Berks Canal Group (3rd Thursday)	Caudwell DC

FRIDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
11.00 am	The Friday Club (to 3.30) 202466	Caudwell Day Centre
7.00 pm	Choir Practice	St Peter's

SUNDAYS

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

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