

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 28 No. 6

July 2005

THE PERFECT NEIGHBOUR

John Spencer 1937 - 2005

The Oxford Crematorium was full to bursting on June 10 to celebrate the life of an exceptional man. "If he was helping someone else he was happy" said Ian, the eldest of his three sons; that summed him up admirably.

Born near Basingstoke he had left school at 15 before joining the Royal Engineers in 1955. When he left, following a three year posting in Germany, he was a 'jack of all trades and a master of most', as those of us whom he rescued from yet another DIY disaster will testify. He was also a businessman and entrepreneur.

He married Pam in 1960 but joy turned to tragedy when she died, leaving John to bring up his sons single-handedly; this he did with love, flair and a good deal of help from his sister 'Tough'.

He moved to Didcot, establishing his own company making car transporters on the Milton Estate. There he met his soul-mate and future partner Fran, who worked for one of his suppliers. They moved to Sutton Wick Lane in 1985.

Lucky for Drayton FC that John was a football fan, for he became the team's Chairman and Sponsor. His love of people and good company may also have helped. He had friends everywhere, meeting them more often than not in the Red Lion, White Horse, Magic Midget or Wheat Sheaf.

Not only was John Spencer a generous neighbour and good friend to all who knew him, he was also very brave. Two years ago he had his larynx removed in what, for most, would be a traumatic operation.

He bounced back, Jack Hawkins-like, full of life and fun. There was never a moment of self-pity; just the fun of meeting and making new friends and helping them to make the best of things. Ever the perfect neighbour. *Tom Shebbeare*

DRAYTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Hilliat Fields, Drayton, Abingdon Oxon OX14 4JF

Has places available for children 2½ to 5 years

Session times:

Monday to Friday 9am - 11.30am and 12.30pm - 3pm

Lunchclub Tuesday to Thursday 11.30am - 12.30pm

Please ring to come and visit us or request an information pack on

01235 536094

Ofsted inspected 1st December 2004 www.ofsted.gov

BEAT THE CROWDS - DRAYTON WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE IS OPEN LATE, ON THURSDAYS UNTIL 8pm. IF IN DOUBT ABOUT THE RANGE OF MATERIALS THEY TAKE (OLD SHOES ARE OK!) CALL THEM ON 01235 531281.

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).

DRAYTON ALMSHOUSE CHARITY

A Vacancy exists for one of the Drayton Almshouses. Are you interested, or do you know anyone else over the age of 60 who might be? For an application form, please apply to:-

Camilla King (Clerk to the Trustees),
Gothic House, Drayton (01235 531253)

Or E-mail kingcanda@yahoo.co.uk

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Contact 01235 534092 or email info@acwt.org.uk.

Details www.acwt.org.uk

THE BOWLS CLUB

Have some vacancies for new members – see their report on page 10. Despite its sedate image, the sport requires precision, guile and patience (rather like Golf, when something within a whisker of being a great shot can have entirely the wrong result). Bowling sessions are on Monday and Thursday afternoons (2 to 5 pm) and Wednesday evening from 7 until 10 pm. Doreen Jones (202568) can give more info (go on, have a go!)

COMING CHRONICLES

The **August Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, July 29th**, from **Shirley Thomas, 48, Henleys Lane, (531626)**, 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 may be e-mailed (see below), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green,

NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, July 18th 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 1/12th page)

----- Number of Inserts -----

Advertiser Category	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£5.00	£14.00	£25.50	£48.00
Non-Drayton Resident	£6.00	£17.00	£31.50	£60.00

Half-size block adverts, normally for one or two inserts, are charged at half the above rates.

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

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

To discuss your requirements **phone Linda Semmens**, our Ads Manager (531180) or email:- linda.semmens@ntlworld.com

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE JUNE LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	S. Wakefield, 4 Lesparre Close	Steve Penney
£20	Mrs Buckell, 8 Corneville Road	Gerald Redman
£15	V. Parker, 46 Abingdon Road	Jennifer Stevens
£10	Mrs. Pitts, 27 Lockway	Jenny Pooley
£10	J. Madley, Mostyn, Milton Road	Claire Soper
£10	R. Blogg, 46 High Street	Margaret Long
£10	Mr. Turner, 27 Comeville Road	Gerald Redman
£10	Mrs. Parkin, 37 Lockway	Jenny Pooley
£10	J. Cross, 3 Eastway Mobile Home Park	Teresa Burnage
£10	C. Turley, 18 Binnings Close	Christine Turley

Winning tickets, from a total of 2382 sold, were drawn by Teachers of the Pre-School Playgroup; Lockway and Comeville Road were both lucky roads this time.

NB PLEASE SEE THE ITEMS ON PAGE 7 RE:-
CHRONICLE NEWS AND LOTTERY TICKETS.

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:-
September	15 August 2005	26 August 2005
October	19 September 2005	30 September 2005
November	17 October 2005	28 October 2005



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ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Trudi Buckner

In her talk on 'Reducing the Rubbish Mountain' Carol Chapman told us to recycle as much of our waste as we possibly can. Too much still ends up in landfill sites, which are getting harder and more expensive to find.

Her key messages were:

- Compost your green waste and
- Use your Green Box to the full

(and if one box isn't big enough the Vale will be happy to provide a second one. *Ed.*)

Dates for your diary in July: -

Mon 4	10.30	COFFEE	Jean Taylor,	High St.
Mon 18	7.15	WHIST	Edith Hale,	Caudwell D.C
Wed 27		OUTING	to Buscot Park	

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

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

Mondays & Tuesdays & Saturdays 9.00am to 5.00 pm
 Wednesday closed all day
 Thursdays 9.00am to 6.00pm, Fridays 9.00am to 7.00pm
 Men's hair-dressing on Mondays, 6.30 to 8.00pm,
 when appointments aren't necessary, so why not call in?

Special rates for Pensioners and Free Car Parking



 **The Red Lion** 

Glenn & Janet welcome you

11:30 - 2:30 & 6:00 - 11:00 Monday to Thursday
 11:30 - 2:30 & 5:00 - 11:00 Friday
 Open all day Saturday & Sunday

Come and try our delicious home cooked lunches
 Monday to Saturday

Enjoy dining in traditional pub surroundings or,
 weather permitting, in our beautiful garden,
 complete with children's play area.

NEW- FOR THE SUMMER - COVERED PATIO AREA

Senior Citizen discount 20% Monday - Thursday
 For party bookings or enquiries
 phone 01235 531457

 **The Red Lion** 

MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

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

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The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

Branch member Vernon Jones and his wife are attending the celebrations in London on Sunday July 10th to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War 2.

The Branch hopes YOU will join us on that day, when we shall be commemorating that event at Steventon with a Church Service (St Michael's, 9.45 a.m) and wreath laying (War Memorial, 11.15 a.m).

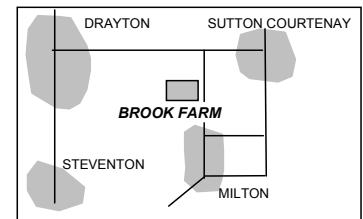
PLEASE COME ALONG AND GIVE THANKS to all those who laid down their lives for our present, and future.

The next Committee meeting will be on Monday 18th July at 8pm.

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NEW OPENING HOURS..... Mon to Sat 9.00 am to 1.00pm,
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DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

The Oxfordshire Drama Festival has come and gone for another year and our entry in it, Day Trippers, was very well received. It was performed twice, once in the Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon, and then in the Corn Exchange, Wallingford. Quite a contrast in stage sizes but admirably dealt with by our participants, Georgia Alston and Jayne Henderson.

This was a first venture for the Players and proved to be a great success, with many encouraging and appreciative comments by the adjudicators. Also, it must be said, very warmly applauded by enthusiastic audiences - well done Jayne and Georgia! We hope we may be able to be part of this competition next year. Thinking caps are now on for a suitable entry.

By the time you read this, some casting will have been settled for next February's production of My Fair Lady, but **anyone wishing to join us** for this great musical is invited to contact the director, Richard Webber (534001), for more information.

In the meantime, rehearsals have begun for our October showing of J.B.Priestley's 'When We Are Married'. Set in Victorian Yorkshire, this is a real family show, full of humour and comical situations.

Watch this space for further information.

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge:- Revd Sister Josie Midwinter531374
Licensed Lay Minister:- Dr Peter Barton523702
Churchwardens:- Mrs Sue Harris 848361
 Mr Peter Cline530519
Organist :- Mr Adrian Thompson01865 714801
Choir :- Mrs Rosie Bruce525284

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.
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'ate Fridays)	Church Room

CALENDAR FOR JULY

Tues	5th	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sun	17th	11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods	

PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism	June 12th	Amelia Ainscough
Funeral	May 20th	Judy Pitts
	June 1st	Evelyn Elizabeth Thompson

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YOU STAY - WE PRAY

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

26 June – 2 July: Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippington Court; Stone Hill

3 – 16 July: Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway MHP

17 – 23 July: Church & Henleys Lanes; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane

24 July – 7 Aug: Abingdon Rd; Oday Hill; Binnings Close; Haywards Rd

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).



Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

How much would you pay for a ticket for the Live 8 Concert, which is being planned by Bob Geldof to include some of the world's best selling pop artists? The plan was that the 148,000 tickets, which could be requested via mobile phone, would be free – Bob's aim being to draw a large crowd rather than raise money. However now the tickets have been released there is an active black-market in tickets, which is raising thousand of pounds for the touts who are selling them. The whole process has cut across the point that Bob Geldof was trying to make. He wanted to put pressure on the leaders of the leading eight countries (G8 countries) in the world to do more about cancelling world debt and introducing trade justice for the poorer nations of the world.

There are some things about human nature which never seem to change. As if all the cruel and evil things which are happening in the world were not enough there are always people who want to exploit the situation and make a fast buck out of someone else's misery. It has ever been thus. Back in the eighth century BC the prophet Amos had this to say about the touts in his local market-place of his day:-

They long to be in the market selling wheat...

Skimping the measure,

Boosting the price

Cheating with dishonest scales

Buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,

Selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

What was happening in that local market-place nearly 3,000 years ago is happening now, not just on a local scale, but internationally too.

On 6th July the G8 leaders of the eight richest countries in the world will meet in Gleneagles to discuss many issues including world debt and trade justice. There will be thousands of people there to remind them of the importance of bringing greater justice to world economies. Amos also had that hope for his own people when he wrote:-

But let justice roll like a river,

Goodness like a never-failing stream!

The five Live 8 concerts will take place on 2 July in London, Philadelphia, Paris, Rome and Berlin. We will not be there, but on Sunday 3rd July we will particularly think about these issues and pray for the leaders. If you haven't got a ticket for one of the concerts why not come along and join us at the church as we pray for the G8 leaders that they will be wise and courageous in the decisions they make?

Or on Sunday 10th July you could come along and buy something from the Fair Trade stall. We may not think we are able to do much but we can do something to make the world we live in a better place. As one of the leading supermarkets says: 'Every little helps!'

Yours sincerely

Josie Midwinter

(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton Pre-School Group Anna Loughlin

The Summer term has been very busy and enjoyable, and the children learned about wild animals and their habitats. They enjoyed bringing in, from home, their more exotic cuddly toys and books. A veritable menagerie was established to add to the eye-catching displays and the 'walk in the jungle' theme. To round off the theme, ZooLab visited pre-school at the end of May, and the children had a 'hands-on' encounter with snails, snakes and spiders...not for the faint-hearted!

Many thanks to all the parents who attended the AGM in June. Pre-School are always looking for new committee members and all help is very welcome.

Thanks also to all the children, Mums and Dads who raised money for Barnardos at Beale Park. As a charity, Barnardo's rely on all sorts of people, from pre-schoolers to big businesses for financial support, and all donations are gratefully received (www.barnardos.org.uk or Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex, IG6 1QG).

Looking ahead, the Teddy-Bears Picnic is on the agenda. Please see the notice board for more details.

Pre-School is a wonderful opportunity for your children, and we still have **some spaces available for September**. Pre-School is open for children from the age of 2½. So, arrange a visit by calling 01235 536094, or, if your child already attends, would you like to arrange extra sessions for the Autumn? It is important for Pre-School to keep numbers steady over the year. At the moment sessions are held morning and afternoon every day of school term, but a fall in the number of children attending, even if only for a short period, could mean the closure of some sessions, which none of us wants.

We send warmest congratulations to Lucie and Lee, who recently tied the knot! We all wish you the very, very best for the future!

Term ends on Friday 22 July and will resume on Monday 5 September. Finally, we say a very, very big Thank You! to all the staff, Christine, Oz, Claire and Denise for another happy and successful year at Pre-School. We all appreciate your hard work, enthusiasm and your commitment. We wish you and all the parents and children a very happy summer!

DRAYTON W.I.

Doreen Buckland

The June meeting was very well attended; our speaker for the evening was Mrs Eleanor Tims, who spoke about her experiences in sailing a small boat single-handed to Gambia. She was away from home for five years.

There was much laughter at this very courageous and entertaining lady, an evening really enjoyed by all.

Our Cook, Grow and Sew event is getting ever nearer, have you selected your entries yet? A coffee morning has been arranged for June 18th, and a riverboat trip on July 9th.

New members will always be made welcome, we meet in Drayton Hall on the second Thursday of the month.



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Drayton TODDLER GROUP Anna Loughlin

Summer has arrived at last, and Toddlers hope you all have a happy, relaxing time. Toddlers continues to run on Thursday mornings at Drayton Hall, between 9.30am and 11.30am. Weather permitting, we will be 'garden hopping' at parents' homes on Tuesday mornings over July and August. Please call Anna (206170) to find out where the play sessions will be held.

Toddlers hope to raise lots of money for Barnardo's on the **Barnardo's toddle on Wednesday 29 June at Beale Park**, situated between here and Reading. The event has always been a very popular and enjoyable occasion, and the children are always assured of an excellent time as there is so much to see and do.

Any donations to Barnardo's would be very gratefully accepted (please see the Pre-school group article for Barnardo's details).

Please make a date to accompany Toddlers on the annual **Teddy-Bears' picnic**. Hopefully, we can again team up with the Pre-school children and share a picnic at the Millenium Green. Watch the noticeboard at Toddlers/Pre-school for the scheduled date and time. Finally, it's been great to see new faces at Toddlers - all toddlers and parents are really welcome and we hope you keep on coming!



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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.

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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)

Thank YOU :- to everyone who came along to support our Coffee Morning at the Caudwell Day Centre (in aid of Christian Aid) – we raised £183.80.

Come and join us every Sunday – we look forward to seeing you. Next **Family Service** is **July 3rd** at 11.30, and following that on **August 7th**, each led by **Janet Strong**.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

A very warm welcome to Tony and Sally, whose neighbours hope they'll be very happy in Crabtree Lane.

Also to Karen and Mark and their son Harry, who have moved from Abingdon into Church Lane;

and to Julie and her children Sam and Sophie who have also moved into Church Lane.

Sincerest sympathy to the family of Mrs Eve Thompson who died recently. She will be greatly missed in the Alms Houses where she was always so helpful.

We wish Gillian von Hoven much happiness in her new home in Shrewsbury after many years of living in Drayton.

A warm welcome and good wishes to newcomers in the High Street, Adam and Sarah Walters.

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YOUR LETTERS

Misquoted

Dear Sir,

I was disappointed to find I had been misquoted by Mr Beadle in his letter which appeared in last month's *Chronicle*. If quotation marks are used, then I would have thought that, as a matter of courtesy, it would not be too difficult to ensure the accuracy of the statement.

Mr Beadle conveniently omitted the word 'always' which significantly changes the meaning of my comment, which was as follows:- 'Whilst they (Drayton's shops) are not ALWAYS able to compete with supermarkets on choice and price, they more than compete on service'.

I feel this puts my remark in a totally different light. Unfortunately, when such a fundamental error is made by Mr Beadle it could be seen to undermine the significance of the rest of his contribution.

Yours Faithfully

Grahame Ash

(Ed:- The regular District Councillor column is on p8).

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Parents Beware ?

This isn't a letter, it's the amalgamation of a couple of reports that the *Chronicle* has recently received.

The gist of them is that, apparently, a white van has been seen, late afternoon and/or early evening, sometimes late evening, in locations including the Hall car park, and the Green. The driver has been reportedly acting suspiciously, the concern is that drugs may have been distributed to local youth.

The matter has been reported to the police; at the time this edition has to go to the printer, unfortunately no results have been received from them of their checks and observations.

HOMOEOPATHY PRACTICE IN DRAYTON

Homoeopathy is a gentle, holistic form of healing, suitable for adults and children alike.

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LOTTERY TICKETS

This is the last month in which lottery tickets will be on sale at 15p per ticket, 75p per book. As already announced, the price of the tickets distributed at the end of July with the August *Chronicle* will be 20p per ticket, £1.00 per book.

As the editor commented last month :-

'We very much hope that most people will buy the same number of tickets as before, despite the price going from 15p to 20p, and will continue to place adverts in the *Chronicle*. In that way we can make sure this vehicle for village communication is kept going.'

Geoffrey Long, Chronicle Co-ordinator

And, on a related topic, Daphne Samworth, our Lottery Promoter, wishes to point out the following to our willing band of agents :- We are beginning to get foreign coins creeping into the money collected for lottery tickets. Please try to ensure that you only collect British money, especially as the summer months are upon us and we are all going away on our holidays.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Special arrangements for the *Chronicle*

Yes, believe it or not, the time for summer holidays is here once more, and holidays can affect the *Chronicle*. Like many people, Lawrence and Debbie, at Vickery's store on the Green, sometimes decide on their holidays at the last minute. This may not give us time to publicise the arrangements for the *Chronicle* box should the shop be closed around the deadlines for copy and the return of lottery packs.

This doesn't often affect us but, if it does, Lawrence very kindly allows us to make alternative arrangements. Should you find that the shop is closed for the holidays at a critical time please follow the simple instructions which will be displayed on the glass door of the shop.

Geoffrey Long, Chronicle Co-ordinator

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 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

“People Get The Shops They Deserve”

This phrase appeared in a recent report bemoaning the fact that our major town centres are becoming clones of one another with the same chains of shops taking over. It also referred to the ‘out-of-town’ stores being responsible for the closure of many independent shops.

So I was delighted to see my May Chronicle article on Local Business (‘Lose it or Use it’) has generated interest. I was very pleased to read Mr. Vickery’s letter to learn in particular that he has ‘Stellar’ cookware at half list price and selected garden products at promotional prices. I think this information is useful and hope it generates more business for him. I hope, as suggested by Mr. Vickery, that it encourages Chronicle readers to check out his and other village shops and give them more of our support.

More Houses for Drayton?

I have mentioned in earlier articles the process to complete the Vale’s Local Plan to 2011. The next stage is the Inquiry. This allows objectors to propose that other sites should be identified for building development as alternatives or additions to those already identified in the Plan. The representatives of the Earl of Plymouth’s Estates are to promote at this Inquiry the following developments:-

Approx 144 dwellings on land at Manor Farm. This is the area bounded by Abingdon Road, Henley’s Lane, Gravel Lane and Caudwell Close.

Approx 445 dwelling on the western ‘green belt’ fringes of the village. This land runs from the back of the westerly houses in Lockway and Whitehorns Way right through to the A34. The plot also includes a ‘finger’ shaped extension for some 2-300 metres along the A34 north of Whitehorns Way.

May I remind readers that, whilst the Government’s plan is to maximise house building, the policy of the Lib Dem administration at the Vale is not to build on the ‘green belt’ land.

ASBOs and High Hedges

The Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 is coming into force in stages. From 1st June a complaints procedure for dealing with neighbour disputes caused by high hedges comes into operation. The most common concerns relate to light obstruction and loss of visual amenity. Existing remedies were considered to be ineffective in settling disputes and the new legislation allows Local Authorities to deal with such complaints where neighbours are unable to agree a solution. A fee for processing each complaint has recently been set at £600, by the Development Control Committee of the Vale. Should anyone wish to discuss such a dispute with me further, I look forward to meeting them at my political surgery.

Licensing Update

The new Licensing laws will come into force on 24th November. After that date, all premises selling alcohol, putting on entertainment or serving hot food after 11.00 pm must have a new licence to be able to trade. **Establishments requiring a licence are asked to submit their applications as soon as possible** to the local councils in order for them to be processed before the November dead-line. Incidentally, the deadline for the automatic renewal of ‘grandfather rights’ is **6th August** and any applications received after that date will be treated as new claims.

Future Council Tax (1)

The Local Government Association (LGA) publication ‘first’ is predicting a £1.5 billion ‘black hole’ in council budgets for 2006. It blames central government for not increasing grants in line with spending requirements. (The LGA is a group of elected councillors representing the political parties in direct ratio to the number of councillors.)

Future Council Tax (2)

Has your residence been extended since the last property revaluation in April 1991? If so, your property will more than likely be revalued and re-banded one or even two bands above its current level. Average properties in Drayton are band D and are currently charged £1,205 council tax. Tax band E has council tax of £1,473, an increase of 22% on band D. For band F, the increase is 44% to £1741.

Vale Website

The Vale was one of the councils that did not rush on to the IT bandwagon. It has however more than caught up its contemporaries. According to the Society of IT Managers the Vale’s website ([//www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/)) has improved in content and usability over the last year. The website has jumped from merely being ‘promotions’ to one that is content driven. This means, I am advised, that it provides ‘useful content and encourages some interaction’ with downloadable files and email feedback. It lists the Vale website’s A-Z listing and search engine as examples of ‘best practice’. It particularly highlights the comprehensive information on social care and benefits.

And Finally.....

The next surgery will be held at 9.00am at the Village Hall on **Saturday August 6th**. (There will NOT be a surgery in July.) I look forward to meeting any Drayton residents who wish to come along and discuss their concerns.

Regards

Grahame Ash

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PARISH COUNCIL (meeting June 6)

An information packed meeting. A representative from Home Start explained how the small grant from the Parish Council helped this very worthwhile organisation help young families.

Followed by Mr Cherry from the County Council who is responsible for a redesign of the civic amenity site up to health and safety standards following a fatality on another site. The trick is to keep the cars away from the people and to dissuade people from putting general waste in the dedicated recycling areas. This was a consultation on a draft plan but the size of the site leaves very little room for manoeuvre. It is especially disappointing that people may be stopped walking onto the site.

The third presentation was from Community Support Officers. Russ and Nina are getting to know the area and explained how they might become part of the process of enabling kids doing what they want to do without getting into trouble or causing trouble to others.

Newly elected Mike Badcock was welcomed to his first parish council meeting. He promised a hot line to the Council. This is how democracy at the local level can be seen to work. Mike will hold his surgeries in Abingdon but if it is a matter that concerns the whole or part of the village (such as traffic and transport) then such issues can be discussed at any parish council meeting with the county councillor present.

The Council voted to support Bourton Parish Council in their concern that an attempt was being made to water down the Vale of White Horse Local Plan housing policies to an extent where every site could be considered on its merits. While this may have some advantages it is not what a plan-led system is meant to be about.

Sadly, the death of Mr John Spencer one of the longstanding allotment wardens was reported. Tom Cox is so far prepared to continue with these duties. Did you know that 40 or so years ago there were more than twice the number of allotments in the village and half the number of families? And worse, about a third of the remaining allotments (behind Church Lane) are **unused**. Taking on one of these plots in their current state would be beyond all but the most experienced gardener. However, if **anybody would be interested** in taking on a **whole (or half) an allotment** if it was cultivated and de-weeded please contact the parish clerk who will put you in touch with Tom. A good time to get onto a new allotment would be in the autumn by when the Parish Council could have had a chance to react to any demand for plots.

If you would like to discuss the allotments, come along to the **next meeting of the Council on 4 July** at 7.45pm at the Caudwell Day Centre when the reservoir will be on the agenda. See you there.

Daniel Scharf

TWINNING NEWS

Regular readers will know that it is our turn to host visitors from Lesparre this year. Hosting will take place between 26th – 31st August 2005.

A party of 26 visitors are due to arrive for the August Bank Holiday period and our programme is being finalised. Some are well known to us, several came for the football competition and others are coming for the first time – age ranges are from 12 to 64 and they are from many different backgrounds.

Our programme will include a visit to an English Vineyard, a boat trip to Oxford followed by various visits in the city, a day out to Blenheim Palace during their Living Heritage Oxfordshire Craft Fair, a Fish and Chip Supper accompanied by a Jazz Band and various other activities.

We have hosts for the group, and even for those of us that have moved away but still want to meet up again with friends from both sides of the channel.

If **anyone would like to be involved or join us for any of these events** please contact Michael Bell (531388) or Alun Griffiths (531463).



East workshop, Rich's Sidings, Broadway, Didcot, OX11 8AG

MEMORIALS

NEW MEMORIALS
RESTORATIONS
ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTIONS
VASES
GLASS CHIPPINGS

GARDEN

TABLES
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PLANTERS
STATUARY

KITCHEN WORKTOPS

FLOOR TILES

We are a family run business with years of experience; customer care is our priority. No obligation home appointments by male or female staff. We have an outdoor show area and sales office near Travis Perkins. Our garden stone is unique, each one is hand carved in solid granite.

Wooden Spoon Recipe

Cold Melon Soup (from August 1977)

1 honeydew melon, ½ pint water, 1 oz sugar, 1 tablespoon cornflour, grated rind of 1 lemon, ½ pint dry white wine, ¼ pt double cream.

Remove the skin and seeds from the melon and cut into cubes. Reserve a few pieces for garnish and cook the rest in sugar and water for 10 minutes. Liquidise.

Blend 2 tablespoons of water with the cornflour and add to the puree.

Return to the heat and cook for 10 minutes, stirring constantly.

Stir in the grated lemon rind and chill.

Before serving, stir in the wine and cream and garnish with reserved fruit.

Lois Rennells



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EVEN MORE ALL AROUND

The BOWLS CLUB 'Roll-Up'

The annual general meeting of the Bowls Club was held on Weds June 8th and was well attended, 40 members being present. The main topic of discussion was the loss of income; this was due to increased hall fees and the drop in attendances at bowling sessions, the treasurer said this could not continue as there was a deficit of £1,000 on the year.

After many suggestions of putting things right, it was decided to increase the green fees to £2 a session from £1.50, which will start on July 1st; this should address the problem short-term, but there is a **need to try and get new members** to join the club (Ed:- more details you doubtless saw on front page).

Secretary Jane Pimm congratulated the Wasps team on winning their league, and the Rollers on finishing runners-up in their league. Main changes on the committee were that Val Locke stood down as treasurer (and was thanked for her services to the club over the last 6 years), and Cyril Carter was elected as her replacement, otherwise the committee was the same.

The internal competitions were going well the last one being The Henry Bunce handicap pairs won by Fred Long and Bryn Jones. The next competition will be The Don Alexander Trophy being played for on June 19.

And in closing the meeting the Chair person said at this stage it would be appropriate to offer Norman Hopkins life membership of the club in appreciation of the work he has put in over the last 14 years; this he accepted with grateful thanks.

And finally we have to end these notes with the news, after a short illness, of the sad loss of Wally (Weightman) who was a very active member for the last 15 years. He will be sadly missed, and our thoughts are with Joyce and her family at this time.

SURGICAL CHIROPODIST

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

HOME VISITS

....00000....

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Drayton School

Claire Soper

The summer is well and truly with us now and the children have been enjoying lots of outdoor activities and visits. It seems hardly possible that a whole year is nearly at an end yet again!

In the Lower Unit the Reception and Year 1 children have been busy growing beans and developing their garden area. Whilst Year 1 and 2 children have been exploring the local area in Geography, are also starting work on an Art Project about the Rain Forest and hope to construct one in the classroom.

Everyone has enjoyed the help of two students from Didcot Girls School who have been on Work Experience.

In the Middle Unit the children have continued their study of places of worship with a visit to the Baptist Church in Drayton and are planning to visit the Oxford Mosque. They have also been carrying out geographical fieldwork in the school grounds, investigating why sparrows are an endangered species.

A visit to an archaeological dig in Marcham is planned this month which I am sure will be fascinating.

The Upper Unit are out and about too, with a visit to the Ashmolean to look at Egyptian Artefacts as part of their topic on Egypt.

Some of the older children will be visiting Dorchester as part of the N.A.P.E. Festival of Voices as well as going to the National event at Wembley.

The School Council are making progress in their efforts to win a Silver Eco Award, they organised a Fruit and Vegetable week to encourage people to eat their 5 portions a day!

Fun activities included:- Apple Bobbing, a Vegetable Creature competition and 'Fruit Police' who awarded stickers to those at lunchtime who had brought fruit to eat.

The whole school was involved in organising stalls for the Summer Fair, with some very ingenious ideas, they get more varied each year! Not least GUNGEING MRS HIGGS, which raised over £120 in sponsorship, and not a little admiration for a very brave effort on her part!

Well done to Phillip and Jenessa for completing their Cycling Proficiency tests recently.

Sports Day will take place on **Wednesday 20th July** and will include a Family Picnic at lunchtime.

News from F.O.D.S.A:- The Summer Fair at the time of writing raised approx £1,350 with some money still to come in, this is a FANTASTIC result and we are extremely grateful to everyone involved in making the day so successful.

The recent AGM in June was well attended, and thanks go to Julie Woods for taking on the role of Secretary and to Julie Lester for co-ordinating Cake Sales.

Our efforts over the next year will be aimed at improving the external play area for the Foundation and Reception children.

The Leavers' Disco will take place in school on Friday 22nd July from 7 - 9.30 pm for school families.

It just remains for me to say that school will finish on Friday 22nd July with the final Leavers Assembly at 1.30pm. to which visitors are welcome to attend.

We offer our best wishes to those pupils moving on to Secondary School in September. Happy and safe holidays to everyone over the coming weeks, school restarts on Monday 5th September.

NOTICE BOARD

THAMES VALLEY FARMERS MARKETS – Fresh,
Quality produce, Locally produced, at a Competitive price
**(Discover the taste of really fresh meat & veg,
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JULY Dates

Abingdon (3rd Monday) – 18th Wantage (last Sat) – 30th
Didcot (2nd Sat) - 9th Newbury (1st Sunday) – 3rd
Oxford – Gloucester Green (1st Thursday) – 7th
Reading (1st & 3rd Sats) – 2nd / 16th

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

Usually the markets run from about 8.30 am until lunchtime,
Newbury market is on a Sunday and starts about 9;
It is well-supplied with quality stalls, and indeed well-
attended, and is a good trip out with other shops open in the
main street (M&S etc).

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

If you're feeling **lonely, isolated or in need of company** for whatever reason, you are warmly invited to come along and join us for a cup of tea and friendly chat. We meet in St. Peter's Church Room, every month on the first Tuesday from 3 to 4.30 pm. **Just drop in for a while and try us out.**

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. We **look forward to meeting you**; if you need transport please call me (Jean Hager) on 531558.

Our **next meeting is on July 5th**, when we shall be led in a short session of simple (seated) exercises, by a qualified instructor. We are promised information, gentle movement and fun, so **do come along and join us**. This particular session will commence at around 3.30 pm, so you've time for your cuppa first, if you wish.

On August 2nd we shall be holding a **Summer Tea Party**, in the garden area outside the Church Room, under shady awnings (inside if wet). Invitations are being sent out for this occasion, because we need catering numbers, but if you don't receive one and would like to come along, please let me know beforehand (531558).

LISTINGS

July 6th to 9th, 7.30 pm, Abingdon Drama Club presents, at the Unicorn Theatre, **LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES**. £6.50, concessions £5.50
From MODERN MUSIC or Ticketline (524538) plus Gala Supper after show (Sat only) £10 these tickets ONLY from Ticketline.

ABBEY BRASS and the **OXFORD WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR**, July 16th, at Amey Theatre, 7.30pm, £8, concessions £6. Tickets from Modern Music, Dillons (Peachcroft), or at the door.

NEWBURY COMEDY FESTIVAL, July 9th to 16th, at venues round, you've guessed it, Newbury. Advertised to have World-class stand-up, surreal theatre, kitsch cabaret, lunatic escapologists, old time music hall, and exploding underpants... there really is something for everyone at this year's Newbury Comedy Festival. Listed performers include :- Lee Mack, Jo Brand, Rich Hall, Jenny Éclair and Dominic Holland, all regulars on TV. Check out website www.newburycomedyfestival.com/ for dates and times, or call 01635 522733 which is the Corn Exchange box office. Tickets are reportedly selling fast, so hurry!

OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

Methodist Chapel

High Street, Milton, (near the Post Office)

Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

MISSING MARVIN APPEAL

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?? 'Marvin' is a large grey puss, with long legs and tail, and green eyes. Until May he lived at a house in Wootton Road, Abingdon, where he'd adopted the resident humans about a year before, joining the three existing cats there.

In May his new owner in Whitehorns Way responded to an appeal for a new home (due to cat over-crowding at the old one) and brought him to Drayton. Sadly Marvin didn't seem to realise all the efforts that were being made on his behalf, and absconded after a few days as soon as he was able to get outside. Despite various appeals and ads, no reports have been heard about him, last being seen on Sat May 21st.

He could be trying to get back to the former home in Abingdon (but that's a big place for a cat to walk round), he might have got severely lost and wandered off in the wrong direction, he might – sadly – have used up all his nine lives, or – hopefully – he's conned another family into giving the food, rest and affection that he's used to.

If YOU have any genuine news at all, whether just a sighting, or you've seen an unfortunate dead cat that might be him, or maybe you ARE the new people that he's adopted, PLEASE CALL either 526299 or 526002 as his former owners would really like to know what happened.

THANKS.

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS :-

Parish (Chairman)

Paul Knight (531678);

District (VofWH)

Grahame Ash (831622);

& Oxfordshire County

Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

LADIES PAMPER EVENING

DRAYTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

are holding a Ladies Night on

Thursday 28th July at 8pm in

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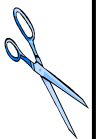
Wednesday & Friday 9.00 – 7.00

Saturday 8.30 – 3.00

senior citizen rates Tuesday & Wednesday
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for an appointment please phone **01235 848453**
or call in and see us at

8 Milton Road, Sutton Courtenay



DIARY FOR JULY

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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

NB If your event isn't listed, IT COULD HAVE BEEN!!!

Sat	2	9.00am	NB NO District Councillor 'Surgery'
Sat	2		Wedding
Mon	4	7.45pm	Parish Council Meeting (p9) <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Tues	5	3.00pm	1st Tuesday Connections <i>Church Room</i>
Sun	10	9.45am	60th WW2 Commemoration (p3) <i>Steventon</i>
Mon	11	7.30pm	Hall Committee <i>Lounge</i>
Sat	16		Wedding
Sun	17	11.15am	Fair-Trade sale (after service) <i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	18	5.00pm	CHRONICLE DEADLINE <i>Vickery's</i>
Weds	20		School Sports Day
Sat	23		Party

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Friday July 29th 2005
7.00 - 'til Late



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Live Irish Band, Irish Dancers and Disco



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In Aid of NSPCC

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

8.15 am	Morning Prayer (daily to Fri)	St Peter's Lady Chapel
9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
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
6.30pm	Weight Watchers	CDC
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	School

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
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Weds in the month)	
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	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
4.00 pm	Dancing Classes - 3 to 6 years Tel 764433	
7.45 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing	

FRIDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'1 Ground Bldg
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	CDC
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 (first Sunday)	Baptist Church
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Baptist Church

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