

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 29 No. 1

Jan / Feb 2006

PROPOSED RESERVOIR

The Parish Council met 3 representatives from Thames Water on 17th November in order to be updated on the situation regarding the **proposed reservoir development**. Whilst no firm decisions appear to have been made yet, some aspects of the proposed development are starting to become clearer.

Thames Water still has to establish that there is a need for a reservoir, and that a surface reservoir in this area is the best option. In order to do this, all the alternatives previously considered will be re-examined; it is clear, however, that the local reservoir is their preferred option at the moment.

It is now likely that Thames Water will apply direct to the Secretary of State for a Compulsory Works Order under Section 167 of the Water Industry Act 1991. This will enable them to make a single application for the entire development, rather than having to make 30 or more separate applications for all the different aspects of the development like construction of buildings, diversion of footpaths, stopping-up of roads etc. From their point of view, this obviously makes a lot of sense.

The submission to the Secretary of State is likely to be made in 2007. There will almost certainly be a public enquiry before a decision is made as to whether to approve, modify or refuse the order. If it's approved, construction is likely to start in 2009/10, with an estimated completion date of 2019.

Prior to this, however, they have promised to undertake full local consultation. (They will no doubt have to satisfy the Secretary of State that they have done so). In spring 2006 the 'needs and site selection' phase should be completed. At this stage they will keep us all in the picture via a newsletter, leaflets and local exhibitions. By the middle of next year, details of their preferred scheme, and design options should be available. There will be further local consultation at this stage.

This will also be the time when mitigation proposals, and ideas for the ancillary uses of the reservoir can be submitted and discussed. Throughout all these stages, the Thames Water website should be kept up to date, thus enabling us all to check the latest position. This is available at www.thameswater.co.uk (under Major Projects).

At present the Parish Council is not taking a position either in favour of, or against the reservoir. Before doing so it is felt that we need to see the full design proposals, consult with the other local villages affected and, most importantly, **find out the views of our local residents**. **What are your views** on the proposed reservoir? **What facilities** would you most like to see provided at the reservoir? What do you think that we can realistically obtain from Thames Water in terms of village improvements, in mitigation for all the inconvenience, particularly during the construction phase? What are your main worries and concerns regarding the siting and construction of such a large reservoir on our doorsteps?

If we are going to effectively represent the views of the village in our future discussions with Thames Water, **we need to know your opinions**. So come along to a Parish Council meeting, contact any Parish Councillor, or the Parish Clerk :-

Marie Sellwood, 86 Farm Road, Abingdon OX14 1NA
(e-mail mariesellwood@hotmail.com)

(NB For further points on this topic, [also see pages 8 & 9](#))

Chronicle Update

At the recent meeting, attended by many of the Chronicle agents and production team, members of the Parish Council and the Community Trust, Jean Barton volunteered for the role of Chronicle Co-ordinator. Grateful tributes were expressed to Geoff Long, who has held the role for some 10 years, guiding us forward, and dealing patiently and expertly with the many queries and problems in that time. Geoff is also retiring from his editing role, (which he's done for even longer!) and David Lee will be joining the editor's rota soon. Jean has penned a description of her background, please see page 6 (includes contact details).

ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE :-

Get a better seat P3 Your Letters P7 Bill's Happy New Year P10 Governor please P9 JB is C-O P6
Who won? P2 Attack the Jack P5 Granny Sailing with Cat P3 Noticeboard P11 Mountain Tales? P10



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Friday 24th Saturday - 25th February 2006
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COMING CHRONICLES

The **March Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, February 24th**, from **Shirley Thomas, 48 Henleys Lane (531626)**, who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Tony Holmes, 53 Whitehorns Way (531180)**. 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, February 13th 2006.

After this deadline, only items of the utmost urgency may be considered for inclusion (NB No guarantees!), and only then if delivered to the Editor by the following Wednesday.

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
David Lee	david_r.lee@ntlworld.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 -----

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

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

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CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE JANUARY LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	M Abbott 51 Steventon Road	Janet Dale
£20	D Osborne 7 Eastway	Teresa Burnage
£15	Mrs E Kidd 7 Binnings Close	Judith Dunster
£10	Mrs King 5 Haywards Rd	Judith Dunster
£10	Mr Eno Sh. House, Oday Hill	Gerald Redman
£10	Mr Castle 'Hollies' Abingdon Road	Gerald Redman
£10	B. Hamilton Sutton Wick Barn	Bette Hamilton
£10	Jim Morris 1 Marcham Road	Karen Jackson
£10	E Larson 27 High Street	Mary Alexander
£10	S Woodhead 4 Halls Close	Mary Alexander

Winning tickets, from a total of 2323 sold, were drawn by Geoff Long, at the recent Chronicle 'Way Forward' meeting.

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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	20 March 2006	31 March 2006
May	17 April 2006	28 April 2006
June	15 May 2006	26 May 2006

ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Margaret Long

It seems so long since I wrote my last piece for the Chronicle with Christmas and the New Year seemingly stretching on for ever – so let me think what has been happening.

First of all, of course, a very Happy and Healthy New Year to everyone.

At the end of November Mr Hugh Granger gave us a very entertaining talk on the story of the Stagecoach in his usual lively manner. It is surprising how many current phrases that we use today stem from those coaching days.

Our Christmas coffee evening was well attended and a most enjoyable start to the Christmas season. Everyone seemed highly delighted with our usual exchange of gifts and we were more than pleased to have some unexpected guests among us who joined in the fun and the present giving. Mary Alexander's Drawing Game is always great fun and it is amazing how anyone ever guesses the answers from some of our bizarre drawings. Thanks are due to Georgie Logan our President and to everyone else who contributed to the success of the evening.

Christine and Gordon Radburn arranged Christmas lunch again at the Fox at Denchworth for the walking group and guests which was another enjoyable event.

And so to the future. . . **Dates for your diary in January/February :-**

January

Wed 25th 2.00 MEETING *Granny goes Sailing with Cat*
Eleanor Timms

February

Mon 6th 10.30 COFFEE Josie Midwinter, The Vicarage,
Gravel Lane

Mon 20th 7.15 WHIST Mary Alexander, Caudwell D C

Wed 22nd 2.00 MEETING *Birthday Lunch*
Steventon House Hotel, 12.00 for 12.30

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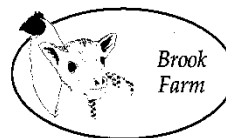
The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

At our recent AGM the new President elected was Mr Roy Slatter, all other officers were returned unopposed.

A branch delegate and the secretary will be attending the County Conference at Newbury on Sat Jan 14th.

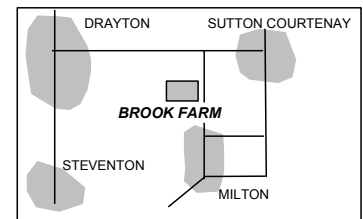
There is a Committee meeting on Mon Jan 16th (as this edition went to the printer); the **February meeting** will be held on Monday 20th February at 8pm.

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DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

By the time you read this we shall be very close to our presentation of the Musical **MY FAIR LADY**. If you have not already booked your tickets now is the time to do so. All seats are numbered so **the earlier you book, the better the choice**.

Even close to Christmas we were caught up in a marathon run-through plus costume fittings, (no mean feat, as the hall was FREEZING, and satin and silks are equally icy upon shivering flesh)!

We are now at full throttle again and rehearsals are giving promise of a really **colourful and exciting** production. **All the family** will love this show, so come along and enjoy a really special occasion.

Don't forget for this show, we are spreading the performances over two weekends, 17th and 18th February, also 24th and 25th February with **matinees on each Saturday**.

For full details and bookings, contact Sue Stevens on 200350.

See you there !

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).

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge	Revd Sister Josie Midwinter	531374
Licensed Lay Minister	Dr Peter Barton	523702
Churchwardens	Mrs Sue Harris	848361
	Mr Peter Cline	530519
Organist	Mr Adrian Thompson	01865 714801
Choir	Mrs Rosie Bruce	525284

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
Thursday	9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Sunday Pebbles (3rd Sunday)	Church Room
Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Friday	7.00 pm	Choir Practice (Alt'ate Fridays)	Church Room

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

Sun	5th	11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods	
Tues	7th	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room

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

- 1 - 14 Jan:** Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway MHP
- 15 - 21 Jan:** Church & Henleys Lanes; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane
- 22 Jan - 4 Feb:** Abingdon Rd; Oday Hill; Binnings Close; Haywards Road
- 12 - 25 Feb:** Hilliat Fields; Lyford & Manor Close; The Green

Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

Love her or hate her Mrs Thatcher was a Prime Minister who certainly made her mark! She once famously remarked: "There is no such thing as society". Such an attitude did much to undermine the confidence of people struggling to develop their community.

Twenty years ago the Church of England challenged that assumption when it published its report: 'Faith in the City'. This report took seriously the huge decay and subsequent breakdown of community in our large inner cities. Almost every organisation and group had left the inner cities to relocate in the 'better' areas. The Church of England was about the only organisation which remained fully committed to the inner city areas however run down and disadvantaged they were.

But this in itself was not enough, so the report looked at ways in which the whole church could give support to the clergy and people of those areas and help them work together with local government and other people of goodwill to regenerate the community. The report was a very thorough investigation into the situation and came up with groundbreaking proposals. These proposals did not go down well with the Thatcher government who tried to rubbish the report by calling it 'Marxist'. However it had raised such important issues that after her victory in the 1987 General Election Mrs Thatcher committed her government to doing something about "our inner cities" and later that year she visited deprived areas to see what could be done.

Twenty years on an evaluation of the recommendations of the report show that it was very significant both in the life of the church in the communities of the inner cities and beyond. The creation of a Church Urban Fund raised 20 million pounds to be used on inner city projects - lunch clubs for the elderly, drop in centres for the lonely, play centres for children, support groups for parents and many other things. These projects were often partnerships with other faith groups, local government and organisations. Such commitment by the Church of England prompted the national government to tackle the wider issues of inner cities like providing affordable housing, creation of jobs, addressing discrimination and more resources for working with vulnerable people.

The impact of 'Faith in the City' was far-reaching. It broke new ground by popularising the term Urban Priority Areas (UPAs). The customary term 'inner cities' did not reflect the truth that much urban deprivation existed on large housing estates away from the centre of towns and cities. We now take it for granted that our government would be concerned with deprived areas as well as the more affluent. What we don't often realise is that the established church played a major part in drawing the government's attention to that need and then working with the government on both a national and local level to address that need.

The Church of England through its parish system remains committed to every area of the country from the commuter belt to the UPA, from the stately home to the farm cottage. This commitment gave birth to 'Faith in the City' and its outworking and it remains the umbrella under which the church still works today.

Yours sincerely

Josie Midwinter

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**Mrs Hazel MOODEY, 48 Hanney Road,
Steventon. Tel. (01235) 834093**



(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton TODDLER GROUP

Jane Nye

Happy New Year! All of us at Drayton Toddlers hope that you had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed your celebrations as we ushered in 2006. Hopefully you have recovered from the excess of turkey and mince pies and feel refreshed from your festive break, ready for the coming term.

Thinking back to December, both adults and children thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas party. Traditional games such as Pass the Parcel were played alongside the excellent entertainment from the Salt Box Music Company. Our children got to play a variety of musical instruments and sing and dance to well known Christmas tunes as well as a few new ones! The tombola prizes disappeared quickly with the Guess the Name of the Teddy competition being won by Hannah Woods. All proceeds from both of these go to fund resources and other items needed to run our group.

The children all enjoyed their party food whilst the adults tucked in to a mince pie or three! There was a surprise visitor at the end of the party when Father Christmas managed to find time out of his busy schedule to pass out presents to all the children. Everyone went home happy and tired, having opened their presents and played with bubbles and balloons.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make the party possible, through donations, helping out on the day or doing the shopping for the food. In particular, thanks to Alison for overseeing everyone's efforts this year.

Drayton Toddler group continues to run **every Thursday** in termtime, held at the **Village Hall from 9.30am to 11.30am**. We look forward to starting the New Year by making new friends and catching up with old ones.

Do please come to join in the fun!

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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.

DRAYTON W.I.

Doreen Buckland

We wish all members and friends a very happy and peaceful New Year. £100 was raised at our coffee morning on Dec 3rd which we will donate to a children's charity. In the evening 24 members had an enjoyable meal at the Four Pillars Hotel in Abingdon, to celebrate **85 years of the Drayton WI**.

At our December meeting, members enjoyed a 'Bring & Share' supper, a quiz and carols.

For our January meeting, members will going for a meal at the Fox in Steventon

New members are always welcome, just come along to one of our meetings (usually) in Drayton Hall on the second Thursday of the month.



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Drayton BOWLS CLUB

'Roll-Up'

We start these notes with great sadness as we report the death of Pam Leather after a long battle with ill health; one of the keenest members of the club, she was a member of The Wasps league team, and took part in most of the internal competitions, and a winner of many, she will be sadly missed by all the members and our thoughts are with Brian and his family at this sad time. And we also have fond memories of Peggy Lewis, a former member who also died recently after a long illness; our thoughts are with Brian at this time.

The winter league has reached the halfway stage and 'The Rollers' and 'The Wasps' are in mid table, both have work to do if they are to get among the honours this year. 'The Hammers' are still trying to get off the bottom although they did record their first win in their last match, and will be looking to improve in the new year.

This has been another good year for the club, rounded off on the 4th December with Finals day, when over 40 members and friends attended.

All the outstanding internal competitions were completed, and the full list of winners and winning teams for the year is as follows:-

Inter club competition 'Friendly Fours', between Hanney, Warborough, and Stanford-in-the-vale, Drayton ran out winners (John Thompson, Gillis Tate, Josie Carter, Bryn Jones) beating Stanford-in-the-Vale in the final.

Internal club competition winners were:-
Didcot Windows open singles - Tony Mullins
Derrick Messenger Ladies singles - Barbara Watts
Jean Mullins Gents singles - Bryn Jones
Henry Bunce Handicap pairs - Fred Long & Bryn Jones
Don Alexander Memorial trophy - Nick Carter, Kay Attwood, Sarah Church.

Beryl James Memorial Triples - John Goodacre, Josie Carter, Anna Bartlett.

The Attwood cup was won by Ronnie Glead.

Ladies v Gents, The Ladies recorded their first victory (Hooray!)
Rose Bowl Triples (League) Jim Bray, Jean Mullins, Anna Bartlett.
John Berry Fours (League) Kay Attwood, Ivy Harrison, Avril Holmes, Bryn Jones.

As you can see, the spoils were well spread and here's hoping for another year like the last.

The club will be holding the annual Dinner Dance and presentation night at Abingdon United FC on January 20th with over 40 members in attendance; still room for anyone who may like to join us, a call to Gillis on 01235 201749 would get you in at £15-50 including wine on the table.

Bowling sessions are Monday & Thursday 2 till 5, also Wednesdays 7 until 10, **anyone out there who would like to try their luck** there would be a warm welcome for them, take a look **you need nothing to get started** just bring yourself along.

Wishing all members old and new a happy and more importantly healthy New Year.

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)

Come and join us every Sunday – we look forward to seeing you. Next **Family Services** are (all 11.30am):-
Feb 5th ; Mar 5th; April 2nd.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

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Chronicle Co-ordinator Jean Barton

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CHRONICLE NEWS

It is with some trepidation that I take over as Chronicle Co-ordinator. I have lived in the village (in Dick Thouless' house next to Gilbourns farm) for nearly 19 years and have been the Lottery Manager (the person who counts all the lottery tickets and puts them in the brown envelopes) for the past 8/9 years. I have some links with the Chronicle as Harold Bisby, the founder of the Chronicle, worked with my father (Dennis Mettrick). And of course it has been a delight to work with Geoff Long. He will be missed and I trust that I can take up the reins and carry on the task as well as he has done.

I have lived in the area since 1945 when my father came to AERE and it has been a delight to realise that I know quite a few people in Drayton from school and Girl Guide days. I was a research nurse and met many of you when I worked for the MRC blood pressure trial at Marcham Road surgery in the late 70s and early 80s. My last nursing job was working on Alzheimer disease research in Oxford. I was ordained as a minister in the Church of England in 2002 and work as a NSM (ie not paid) curate at Harwell and Chilton. My husband, Peter, is a Lay Reader here in Drayton.

I am looking forward to getting to know many more people in Drayton. If you have any questions about the Chronicle, please do not hesitate to contact me (523702). However I cannot run such a venture on my own. It is Drayton's Chronicle and it is so reassuring to know that so many people are involved in making sure that the Chronicle lands on YOUR door-mat. It works so well because people are doing their own part to make it successful. If we continue to do that the Chronicle will go from strength to strength. And don't forget, **if you feel that you would like to help in any way**, there is always a job for you! You will be welcome onto the team with open arms.

All best wishes Jean Barton (jeanbarton@onetel.com)

YOUR LETTERS

Thank You for your Condolences

Dear Sir, 40 Hilliat Fields

I would like to say a very big "thank you" to all friends and neighbours for the many cards and messages of sympathy I have received after the sad loss of my dear wife Peggy.

Thank you again.

Yours Sincerely Brian Lewis

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Friday Club

Dear Sir,

Sylvia and Sheila wish 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 take over from us if we cannot be there.

A big "thanks" goes to Brian Thompson, who came to our Christmas 'do' and played Carols for us.

Grateful thanks also to Marian & Geoff Dix for Mince Pies for the Dinner.

Also thank you to the Friday Club members for our flowers.

Thank you all Sheila & Sylvia

Janet Manning HOMOEOPATH

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Trudi Buckner would like to thank her neighbours and friends for the many 'Get Well' Cards she received after her operation.

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P.A.C.E. Collections

Dear Sir,

20 Steventon Road

I would like to thank Geoff & Marian at the paper shop for once again collecting for PACE, this time they collected £34.59p. Also **grateful thanks to Janet & Glen**, and all the regulars at the Red Lion, whose collecting box had £100.07p.

I would also like to thank ALL the villagers who kindly contributed when I collected for PACE door-to-door; I collected £242.

Thank you so much, it will help such special children who have so little in the way of physical and mental abilities, yet are so happy, uncomplaining, and eager to learn.

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Yours Sincerely

Judy and Derek Henman

ED VAIZEY - Your Local MP

If you need to get in touch with me, write to me at :-

the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, e-mail me on vaizeye@parliament.uk or telephone 020 7219 6350;

Forthcoming surgery details are listed below. There is no need to book an appointment (times are from 5.30 pm unless stated).

27 Jan:- Faringdon, Corn Exchange ;

3 Feb :- Harwell Business Centre, Cockcroft Hall (from 12:30 pm);

10 Feb :- Didcot, King Alfred Drive Community Centre.

WOODEN SPOON RECIPE No. 15

Cidered lamb with dumplings (from January 1984)

Ingredients:- 8 middle neck lamb chops, salt and pepper, 1 tablespoon oil, 1 onion (peeled and sliced), 1 garlic clove (crushed), 1 red pepper (sliced), 1 tablespoon plain flour, ¼ pint beef stock, ½ pt cider, 1 teaspoon mixed herbs, 1 aubergine (chopped), suet dumpling mix with 4 oz self-raising flour.

Method :- Trim lamb and season. Fry in the oil until brown. Transfer to a casserole. Fry the onion, garlic and red pepper in the same fat for a few minutes until soft. Stir in the flour, cook for 1 minute, then gradually add stock and cider and bring to the boil for 2 minutes. Season well, add mixed herbs and aubergine and pour over the lamb. Cover casserole and cook at 180 ° (adjust for fan ovens) or gas mark 4 for 1 hour. Make the dumplings in the usual way and shape into 8 balls. Skim off any excess fat from the casserole than add the dumplings. Replace lid and cook for 25 – 30 minutes more. *Lois Rennells*

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Vale Reservoir Group (Fluvius)

Vale Reservoir Group (**Fluvius**) has set up a web site www.fluvius.org.uk; this has drawn together most of the information available at present. You can download information from the county council, district council and central government. Your parish council will also be encouraged to post information on the website about their views if they wish.

You can give your own views via the forum page, and these will be passed on to your parish council (if you wish). You can register as a member and receive updates on what is happening.

Thames Water will be making public presentations in your village hall starting in March 2006 when the public consultation process begins. The planning process has started.

View the web site for more information and **make your views known** either to your parish councillors or to us via the web site. The reservoir is a massive project so we must make our voice heard.

David May



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RESERVOIR LATEST

A meeting arranged by Cllr Ian Brown was attended by all the affected parishes and a number of District Councillors on 12 January. The outcome was that 12 parish councils will see whether they can coordinate their response to the consultation being carried out by TWA (Thames Water Authority) on the proposed reservoir, pool their resources and present a united front.

There may be a number of issues on which the parishes can agree but this will not prevent dissenting views being expressed to be considered by TWA and/or at a public inquiry. Until the proposals and supporting argument sees the light of day (probably in early March) it is not possible to identify the main issues and what should be said on residents' behalf.

It is felt that TWA should be paying to assist the parishes in a mediation exercise prior to and outside the inquiry process to see what common ground can be achieved to reduce harm, maximise potential benefits and identify issues that cannot be resolved and which may have to be left to the inspector/secretary of state to resolve.

Matters could move very quickly and it is **very important** for residents who feel strongly on this matter to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council (see page 9) if they want us to represent their views in this consultation process.

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7.30pm on MONDAY 3 APRIL 2006

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All welcome – Your chance to speak; your chance to vote!

(Followed by the Parish Council Meeting.)

PARISH COUNCIL (meeting Dec 5)

The PC are looking very closely at the options for the tree at the entrance to the Lock Way playground. The roots are causing a hazard and lifting the tarmac. It would be a shame to lose the tree but root pruning may not be a permanent solution and require regular and expensive treatment. No decision will be taken lightly.

There was a long discussion about the role of parish councils and pressure groups in response to the reservoir proposal. Residents of Steventon formed a group called Fluvius (now renamed the Vale Reservoir Group) to present views that may not be the 'official line' taken by its parish council.

The VRG was set up to try to coordinate the views of the affected parishes to reduce the chances of communities pulling in different directions. The Council decided that there would be dangers in being associated with a pressure group that may not include a key parish council and asked Councillors Badcock and Webber to see whether the District Council could organise a meeting to include all the affected parish councils.

If you have heard it once, you will hear it again, readers should get in touch with a parish councillor or better still, come to a meeting of the parish council if they want to keep up with the progress of this major development.

(Ed's note:- some of this report appears on the front page, so has been reduced in this section >>>>>>>>>>)



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The Council does not yet have a position and is waiting for more information in terms of the design and to assess the opinions from other villages and, most importantly, from Drayton residents.

The Council **would like to hear your views** on what facilities you would like to see provided and believe are realistically obtainable from Thames Water, what mitigation measures would be desirable, especially during construction, what are your main concerns regarding the siting and construction of such a large reservoir on our doorsteps? **Come along to a Council Meeting to express your views** or contact a Parish Councillor or Clerk (Marie Sellwood, 86 Farm Road, Abingdon OX14 1NA email mariesellwood@hotmail.com).

The Council have lost their representative on the school governors with the resignation of David Hudson. The Council is not yet up to strength (taking two steps forward and one step back) and would welcome interest from residents wanting to play a part in village affairs. Even if regular attendance at parish meetings may be difficult, there is an opportunity for the Council to **nominate a school governor** if that were your personal interest. Those interested should speak to the school and to the Parish Clerk (mariesellwood@hotmail.com).

Anybody with views on any of these matters would be welcome to attend the next meeting of the Council on February 6th, 7.45pm at the Caudwell Day Centre. **Daniel Scharf**

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Drayton School Claire Soper

As I write school has just returned after the Christmas break, and already the children are hard at work. We especially welcome Izzy and Reece who have joined us from pre-school.

Firstly there are some activities to report on that took place during last term, particularly related to Christmas. Years 5 and 6 enjoyed taking part in the annual Abingdon Schools Carol Concert at St Helen's Church.

Also well done to Abbie, Connie, Helen, Louise and Sammy who sang 'Away in a Manger' unaccompanied at St Peter's Church Carol Service, they represented school very well.

For those of you who were unable to attend the school plays you missed two extremely fine performances. The Lower Unit's 'Rock around the Flock' was a jolly interpretation of the Christmas story with lots of singing and dancing.

The rest of the school performed 'Scrooge' again to a very high standard, with excellent acting and singing. The audiences especially enjoyed taking part in the 'Old Time Music Hall', when Scrooge was reminded of Christmas Past. Congratulations to pupils and staff for all their hard work in producing both plays.

Next some sporting reports. The Football Team played Thameside School on 1st December in a 7-a-side match, winning 9-2, well done to everyone who took part. They also travelled to Wantage for the second round of the Vale 5-a-side indoor tournament, where they came seventh overall, again well done to all those who represented Drayton so well.

The Netball Team played Dorchester School in a friendly High 5 match, which they lost 2-3. Both Julie and Wendy were particularly pleased at how well everyone played, especially as this was the first game the newly formed team had taken part in.

The Christmas Fair raised approximately £900, thanks to everyone who contributed!

Thank you also to Jean Madley who donated the WONDERFUL singing Christmas Tree! The raffle raised £40!! Well done to Peter Weir for winning and commiserations to his Mum Maggie! (I imagine the batteries have worn out by now.)

Turning to the New Year, this term the Reception and Year 1 children will be looking at toys, old and new. **They would welcome any older toys that people might have to loan** for their classroom display. They will also be learning about the Chinese New Year. Year 1 and 2 will be studying island homes in Geography which they hope to link to moving pictures in Design and Technology.

The Middle Unit children are starting to design some pop-up books, which should prove fun. They have also been busy working on some orange landscape paintings in art, which will link into their Humanities topic about Kenya.

The Upper Unit are beginning a topic about Mountains and **would be pleased to have photographs, pictures etc related to this. If anyone can share their experiences of mountains with the children, we'd be pleased to hear from you.**

Finally we can report that our School Travel Plan submitted to the County Council in December has been approved. We hope to be able to use the grant to provide improved cycle storage facilities and access to school for cyclists and pedestrians, as well as reduce the number of cars in the vicinity. More about this later.

Happy New Year from everyone at Drayton School!

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Goodbye '05, it's now '06

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The seasons come, the seasons go,

But wait a jiffy, it's all so-so;

It may be wet, it may be cold,

Who will tell me ? Be so bold.

In for a penny, in for a pound,
Nothing but trouble all around -

Is anyone caring? Maybe not,

Give me a message, make it hot !

Just listen to God, He will say,
Be not afraid, there's another day;

All will be well, just follow me,

Trust in God, and YOU will see!

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MOBILE LIBRARY DATES / TIMES

Following a concerned villager's note re possible changes in the Mobile Library's routine, it can be confirmed that the Drayton stops are (presently) on alternate Thursdays, imminent dates being Jan 26th, Feb 9th & 23rd, at the following times:-

Stopping at	From	Until
I vford Close	9.30am	9.45am
Havwards Road	9.50am	10.10am
The Green	10.15am	10.40am

BUT an enquiry to the Mobile Library Services Manager got this reply :- " We were indeed going to change the timetables but events have overtaken us somewhat. It is likely that things will change in the spring sometime but I do not have exact timings at this juncture. For now, the status quo remains and the schedules you have are correct. The next visit will be 26 January and onward as you rightly surmise. The crew on the mobile will kept folks apprised of any changes as they come up".

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of company ? Maybe after the Christmas hurly-burly things seem a bit flat ?

Why not come along to our tea and chat afternoon for some friendly company and conversation.

We shall be in St. Peter's Church Room on Tuesday 7th February from 3pm until 4.30pm and hope you will join us. Drop in for a short or long visit and you will find a warm welcome awaiting you.

If that date is not convenient then our next get together will be 7th March and we look forward to seeing you then.

If you need transport, or more information , just give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS :-

Parish (Chairman) Paul Knight (531678);
District (VofWH) Richard Webber (534001);
& Oxfordshire County Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

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

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FEBRUARY Dates

Abingdon (3rd Mon) – 20th Didcot (2nd Sat) - 11th

Wantage (last Sat) – 25th (& Jan 28th)

Newbury (1st Sunday) – 5th

Oxford – Gloucester Green (1st Thursday) – 2nd

Reading (1st & 3rd Sats) – 4th / 18th

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;

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).

LISTINGS

The Abingdon Touring Theatre Company is proud to present our first tour – Alan Bennett's Talking Heads - in Sutton Courtenay Village Hall on Sunday 5th February, with curtain up at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm). Tickets cost £6 (£4 concessions). Our box office opens at the beginning of January, via Christine Ellis on 01235 848605. For more information, please visit www.attc.org.uk (This is a new theatre company and the production is put on by potential drama students who are currently on a gap year.)

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DIARY FOR January / February

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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

JAN			
Sat	28	Private Party	
Mon	30	7.30pm Bowls Club meeting	Lounge
FEB			
Fri	3	7.15pm Players – rehearsal	
Sun	5	11.00am Fair Trade goods sale	Church
		1.00pm Players - rehearsal	
Mon	6	7.45pm Parish Council Meeting (p9)	Caudwell DC
Tues	7	3.00pm 1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Mon	13	5.00pm CHRONICLE DEADLINE	Vickery's
Thur	16	Players - rehearsal	
Fri	17	7.30pm My Fair Lady performance (see page 1 ad)	
Sat	18	9.00am Richard Webber surgery (Dist'ct Councillor)	
		2.15pm My Fair Lady MATINEE (see page 1 ad)	

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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'l 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'l Ground Bldg
9.30 am	Parent and Toddler Group	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	Caudwell Day Centre
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	School
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	School
6.30pm	Weight Watchers	CDC
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	School

WEDNESDAYS

9.15 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
10.30 am	Parent and Toddler Service	Church Room
2.00 pm	Whist – now each week	Caudwell Day Centre
2.00 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'l Ground Bldg
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Lady Chapel
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.30 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 15 min)	Lyford Close
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'l 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

DISCLAIMER This Journal is published in all good faith and every care is taken in its compilation. The organisers of the DRAYTON CHRONICLE, and its Agents, therefore accept no responsibility for OPINIONS EXPRESSED, nor for the validity of any ADVERTISEMENT, nor for any EFFECTS ARISING WHATSOEVER from the publication.

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