

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley

Volume 29 No. 5

June 2006

## HELLO DRAYTON!

Daniel Scharf



With something less of the media and party speculation that has attached to the change from Blair to Brown, the chair of the parish council was transferred from Paul Knight to Daniel Scharf, giving me 'ample' time to learn the ropes before the next election. In fact, if I fulfil one of my ambitions, that is to see all the places on the Council filled by May next year, there could be a contest for seats and my time as chairman could be the shortest on

record. Another of my ambitions is to reinforce the links with the District and County Councillors, where perhaps greater power and influence lie, and where I'm sure I/we would be assisted by the enthusiasm of the present incumbents. I believe that the Parish Council should have an eye on the great progress being made by the school in establishing green credentials, and on the prospect of improving the recreational opportunities within the village.

Without intending to diminish in any way the contributions being made by your very able current councillors, I can point out that I am not untypical in being middle aged, in not running a business in the village (or at all) and in living to the east of Abingdon/Steventon Road. If there are people who feel that they might see the village from a different point of view, then they would be very welcome on the Council or in the public gallery. No very great commitment is required, more than coming to one or more meetings (normally the first Monday of the month) to see how we spend what was your money (before collected as Council Tax) and how, within our very limited powers, life in Drayton can be improved for all village residents.

## DRAYTON'S YOUTH

Gary Hibbins

The District Councillor (Richard Webber) has asked me on several occasions to write something for the Chronicle but so far I have avoided it by saying that I am a youth leader not William Shakespeare! Until now, that is.

I know that many Drayton residents find the behaviour and attitude of the young very annoying and ask why we can't do more to control them. But that is not my role. I am here to represent and encourage the young to behave responsibly by making them feel they are wanted and that the community is concerned for their welfare. Everything I have learned about youth leadership tells me that I must start by winning the trust of the large majority of young people who have never, and will never, cause any difficulties.

I am working with the youth of Steventon, Sutton Courtenay and Appleford as well as Drayton, and I can honestly say that I have seen good in all of them. They are open to reason and are worth spending time on. The Chair-person of the Village Hall has said that, although there is a long way still to go, things are better there. We are making headway with a weekly youth evening in the Hall to add to the Monday evening visits of the Damascus Bus (but we do need more offers of help here). We have had a talk on the subject of Drug and alcohol abuse where the young asked many good questions. We are arranging a Football Match with Thames Valley Police.

Anti-social behaviour is not going to go away overnight and we need time before the results are judged. But we are making progress. It is easy to say the young are all a bad lot and should be shut out, but it has been proved that that attitude just makes things worse. Please help us by being patient or offering some time if you can.

**Editor's notes:** Paul Knight decided to stand down as chair of the Parish Council after 5 years and the Council elected Daniel Scharf in his place. See also page 13

Gary Hibbins is the leader of the DAMASCUS youth project, covering the villages of Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon.



## ST PETER'S FESTIVAL

1st & 2nd July

Art competition for children

An opportunity for the children of the village to enter their artwork on pictures of the church.

There will be three age groups with first and second prizes.

Members of Drayton Art Group will judge the entries.

Leaflet with full details from the church or Josie on 531374

### BARN DANCE

6pm to 9pm Saturday 1st July  
in Drayton School Hall

Tickets: £5 for adults and £3 for children up to 14  
(all children to be accompanied with a responsible adult)

*This includes a ploughman's supper.*

Tickets available from church members or ring 531374

Our guests at St Peter's Festival will be  
**Rev Dorothy and John Derrick.**

They will present the prizes for the art competition and Dorothy will preach at the 8am and 10am services on Sunday 2nd July

## Drayton Village Community Day

Saturday July 8th 2006

Drayton Village Hall

4pm to 9pm

Entry and Pig Roast:

Free to all residents of Drayton

**OPEN TO EVERYONE OF ALL AGES**



### Also in this issue:

- P4: Stimulating babies
- P6: Rainforest Roadshow
- P7&8: Neighbourhood Policing

# CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **July Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 30 June 2006** from **Margaret Armstrong, 1 Crabtree Lane (531122)**, who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Tony Holmes, 53 Whitehorns Way (531180)**. Contributions should be emailed to the editor or placed in the Chronicle letter box, which is outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

**no later than 5.15 pm on Monday, 19 June 2006.**

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

THE SUBSEQUENT THREE MONTHS		
Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs needed by Monday:	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:
August	17 July 2006	28 July 2006
September	14 August 2006	25 August 2006
October	18 September 2006	29 September 2006

## NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Please be sure always to include your name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number. Without names we will usually not print an item at all.

A contribution can be sent to us in one of several ways:

1. The best is by **email** to the relevant editor. These contributions should either be in **plain text** or attached as a **rich-text** or **Microsoft Word** document; we do not have all word processing packages! When using email make sure the editor acknowledges your contribution within 2 or 3 days. The editors' email addresses are:

Tony Holmes                    tony-holmes@ntlworld.com  
 David Lee                      david\_r.lee@ntlworld.com  
 Derek Pooley                  derek\_pooley@talk21.com

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

3. As a **good quality, fairly large, simple black typescript**, **without underlining** on white A4 paper or smaller. Our optical character recognition software can read typescripts but only imperfectly, especially if the typeface is elaborate or small.

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

It can be a great help if paper items are left in the box a few days before the closing date.

## ADVERTISING RATES

For a single 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

**Double-size** adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates.

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

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store on Drayton Green, **no later than the Friday before the main Monday deadline given above.**

To discuss requirements phone **Linda Semmens**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, on 531180 or email [linda.semmens@ntlworld.com](mailto:linda.semmens@ntlworld.com).

# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon Promoter

## RESULTS OF THE MAY LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	1399	Mrs Sharp, 25 Steventon Rd	Jackie Walker
£20	1267	A. Gibson, 22 Steventon Rd	Judy Henman
£15	1114	M. Jones, 1 Halls Close	Mary Alexander
£10	1509	Mrs Neal, 'Willows', Binning Close	Judith Dunster
£10	0108	Carol Arnold, 95 Abingdon Road	Carol Arnold
£10	0965	F. Turner, 51 High Street	Margaret Long
£10	1980	D. Barrant, 30 Whitehorns Way	Jean Hager
£10	1330	Ann Roberts, 14 Steventon Rd	Judy Henman
£10	1372	D Drew, 76 Steventon Road	Jackie Walker
£10	1071	Norma Thouless, 33 High Street	Mary Alexander

The winning tickets were drawn by clients and staff of Sabina's hairdressing from the 2210 tickets sold



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## 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.

## YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the very many friends and neighbours in Drayton who have given me so much sympathy and support following the death of my husband, Geoffrey. We had a long and very happy marriage and this is a very difficult time for me following his loss, but knowing that so many of you have been thinking and praying for Geoff, myself and my family has helped us in so many ways. My heart-felt thanks to all of you.

*Margaret Long*

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank everyone for all their support during David's battle with Ewing's sarcoma, a very aggressive cancer, and also after his recent tragic death at only 29 years. Donations are all being sent to Tonks Brothers, Funeral Directors and are still coming in, so a total amount is not yet known. But a substantial sum will be going to Sobell House and Cancer Research (UK). David was very brave and faced what he knew with tremendous courage. He was very caring and will be missed by many but always remembered.

*Pat Bachrach, Lynn, John, Jenny and families*

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank everyone in Drayton who sponsored me for the London Marathon. It was a truly amazing day, the enormity of taking part in such an event was completely overwhelming at times. It was a distance I never imagined I could run and so one of those personal achievements with which I am very happy. After struggling to achieve my minimum for the charity, following the sale we conducted at school, cake sales at my place of work and enticing 15 friends around for supper for a fiver and for those extras popped through my door, I will raise around £1950 for the Iolanthe Trust (a trust that finances training for Midwives and through it improving the care women receive).

I would also like to thank those who dog sat for me on the day when I collected my race number and on the day itself, they know who they are! I would advise anyone to go for it, it is a great day!

*Anita Hedditch*

more letters ➔

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Rachel Green and John Willis of 105 Abingdon Road are getting married at St. Peters Church on 17th June. We wish them good luck and happiness for their future together.



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➔ Dear Sir

On Sunday 23rd April I completed the Flora London Marathon, raising over £2,000 for 'Children with Leukaemia' I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who has supported me through sponsorship, the Marathon Sale and Dix's Shop to achieve my fundraising target.

Thanks also to my long suffering family who supported and encouraged me through the months of training, I can certainly recommend the experience as very positive and inspiring which I may repeat, but not next year!

Yours faithfully,

*Claire Soper*

Dear Editor

I had the pleasure of visiting our Drayton School on May 8th to receive a cheque for £839-78 for the British Heart Foundation. This was raised by 35 children skipping for our 'Jump Rope for Heart' campaign.

I would like to thank the teachers, children and their sponsors for their generosity.

Yours sincerely

*Doreen Eato*

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

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

Mondays & Tuesdays & Saturdays 9.00am to 5.00 pm

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Thursdays 9.00am to 6.00pm, Fridays 9.00am to 7.00pm



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# ST PETER'S CHURCH

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

## REGULAR SERVICES

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

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Pebbles (every 3 weeks)	Church Room
Monday	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Bell Tower
Fridays	7.00 pm	Choir Practice (fortnightly)	Church Room

## CALENDAR FOR JUNE

Sun	4th	11.15pm	Sale of Fair Trade Goods	Church
Tues	6th	3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sat	17th	1.00pm	Rachel Green marries John Willis	Church

## PARISH REGISTER

### Funeral

16th May Muriel May Fuller

### Burial of Ashes

23rd March Barbara Butler  
9th May Peter Bellinger

### Crematorium

22nd March Margaret Llne Gardner  
27th March David Bachrach

## YOU STAY - WE PRAY

28 May – 3 June: High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close. 4 – 17 June: Lockway and Whitehorns Way. 18 – 24 June: Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close. 25 June – 1 July; Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippington Court; Stone Hill.

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## LETTER FROM REV JOSIE MIDWINTER

Recently I visited my niece with her two small children, one aged two and a half and the other six months. I played endless games of repetition. Dad –dad-dad-dad I repeated over and over again to the littlest one – what a joy when he began to mouth something similar back to me, with a big sloppy grin on his face as if he was teasing me. He seemed to be saying I know it really I just want to make you work for it! Then the older boy hid in the cupboard – he wanted me to find him. Is he in the fridge? – is he in the oven? – is he under the table? Oh! there he is in the cupboard! Followed by a quick cuddle before we did it all over again. Anyone who has anything to do with small children will recognise these simple games that have been played for generations by mums & dads, grandparents and others with the children they care for. This is how small children learn and there is no substitute for intimate interaction between adult and child.



Now very small children have been 'discovered' as a commercial market by DVD companies. One DVD by the 'Baby Einstein' brand claims to "foster the development of your toddler's speech and language skills" in babies over one year old. Another DVD by the company 'Brainy Baby' says it will "inspire logical thinking" in babies over six months old. These and other such products have generated sales of \$1 billion (£540 million) in the USA since they were launched in the mid-1990.

When children wanted to come to Jesus some of his disciples tried to stop them. They lived in an age when children were considered to be of little importance until they could contribute to the household in some way. Jesus' response cut right across that type of thinking by saying: 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these'. Then Jesus took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them (Mark 10:13-16). One of my great privileges as a vicar is to pass on that God-given blessing through baptism and welcoming children into the church family. Every Wednesday morning from 10:30am to 11:30am we have a Pebbles Group in the church room for mothers/carers and their very young children, which also helps us as a church to pass on the care that Jesus showed. We have songs and stories and craft and a time for play – much better than a DVD to stimulate and interact with the children. And it is completely free and open to everyone.

I have no idea if 'Baby Einstein' or 'Brainy Baby' have anything to contribute to the development of a baby because I have not seen the DVDs. But my basic reaction is to say there is no substitute for the intimate, face-to-face, interaction of adult with child. In the home, at the Toddler Group, or at Wednesday Pebbles, interaction is free of charge. The only cost is commitment to the child – this is what Jesus taught and this is what most parents instinctively know to be right.

*Josie Midwinter*



# BAPTIST CHURCH

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

## REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

- 11.15 am Presently only one morning service per month. This is the Family Service, and is on the first Sunday of each month
- 6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service frequently with guest speakers. Communion every second Sunday of the month.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of company? Why not come along to our tea and chat afternoons on the first Tuesday of the month? We meet in St Peters Church Room between 3.00 pm and 4.30 pm and you are warmly invited to drop in.

Our next date is 6th June and, if you cannot manage to come along then, we shall be together again on the 4th July. Then, weather permitting, we shall be repeating last year's success - a tea party on the lawns outside the Church room. If wet, this will move into the Church itself and we're looking forward to a happy afternoon. For transport and other information do give me a call on 531558.

## LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton, (near the Post Office)  
Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

## HAVE YOU TRIED OUR FREE RANGE EGGS?



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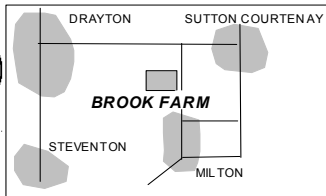
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**TALK TO ME** **Anon.**

*I'm stuck, I want to walk  
but I can't, I'm in a chair.  
Dance with me, talk to me  
help me with a prayer.*

*I give love, hugs and kisses  
laughter, fun and smiles.  
I want to do what you do  
and run for miles and miles.*

*I'm just like you inside me  
I want to be the same.  
To play, to live, to interact  
to join you in a game.*

*Please treat me as a person  
who feels like any other,  
and as I watch what you do  
I'll feel content my brother.*

# NOTICE BOARD

## RAINFOREST ROADSHOW

Come along to the Rutherford Laboratory on Friday 16th June at 7.00 pm and find out about the fascinating ecosystem of the tropical rainforest and the interesting lives of the tribal people who make their home there. This entertaining lecture will help us to understand more about this globally important and fast-disappearing environment. The presenter, Dave Shaw will share



Lisa Faircloth



experiences of his travels to Central and South America, Malaysia, Borneo and New Guinea, where he has encountered a very different way of life.

To book places please contact Lisa Faircloth on 01235 445789 or by email [l.h.m.faircloth@cclrc.ac.uk](mailto:l.h.m.faircloth@cclrc.ac.uk)

## CARING FOR CARERS

Nicola Oddy

Guideposts Trust will be holding an Information Day for National Carers Week, on Thursday 15th June at 10.00am - 2.30pm in the Corn Exchange, Witney. If you are a carer, come along and enjoy a cup of tea and find out what services are on offer.

## DAMASCUS AGM

Anne Whitehead

Will be held on July 5th at 8pm, at St Michaels Hall, Steventon (next to the Church). Everyone is welcome.

## ABINGDON BOWLERS

Mary Alexander

Abingdon bowlers are now out on the green enjoying the new season of bowling. The combination of the sun on your back, bowls at your feet and a drink in the bar afterwards is really rewarding. If you would like to join us for a free trial, come along to our 'Open Session' on Friday evening 9th June at 6.0pm or Saturday 10th June at 2.0pm in Albert Park, Abingdon. All welcome, equipment provided. Ring Ray on 01235 524591 if you need further information. ⇨

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## HOME-START FAIR

Emma Anderson

Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire is a locally-serving charity, promoting the welfare of families with at least one child under the age of five. Our volunteers offer regular support, friendship and practical help to young families under stress in their own homes, helping to prevent family crisis and breakdown.

We are looking for some local trades and crafts people to hold stalls at our annual Southern Oxfordshire Autumn Fair, which this year takes place in Sutton Courtenay Village Hall on Saturday October 14th between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you would like to have a stall - it could be Body Shop, Avon, Tupperware, home-made gifts and crafts, sweets or jams etc., tables will cost £15.00 each and 10% commission on the sale of your goods would be paid to Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire at the end of the day. It will be a fun, family event with plenty to do for children and adults alike, so please help us to make it a success! Thank you.

If you would like any more information, please e-mail me at [emma.anderson@zen.co.uk](mailto:emma.anderson@zen.co.uk) or call me on 01235 511152 or on 07811 313850

We are also looking for general volunteers in your area. If you have a couple of hours free a week to spend with a family and are interested in taking part in a preparation course, please contact Hilary Mundy, Senior Organiser, on 01235 511152

## STOP-PRESS

Beating the Parish Bounds

The parish walk to 'beat the parish bounds' on Saturday 20th May, organised by Rev Josie Midwinter and St Peter's Church, proved a great success. We hope to carry a report and photographs in the July Chronicle.

## Holiday Villa to Let

Near Calis Beach, Fethiye,  
TURKEY



This well equipped villa is one of 12 set round a lovely swimming pool. It has four air-conditioned bedrooms and can sleep seven in comfort. Prices range from £200 to £360 per week, from April to October.

If you would like a brochure please contact –  
Iain Stuart on 01235 531474 or [IainStuart@btconnect.com](mailto:IainStuart@btconnect.com)

## WOODEN SPOON RECIPE

Lois Rennells

Recipe No. 18 (from June 1986)

Celery, bean and avocado salad

2 sticks celery, 8 oz (about 250g) tin red kidney beans, 1 small onion (chopped), 1 green pepper (chopped), 1 avocado pear (chopped), 2 carrots (grated), parsley, French dressing.



Drain the beans and combine with all the other ingredients except the avocado and parsley. Add these just before serving and toss the salad in French dressing.

# your NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

including **Thames Valley Police,**  
**Vale of White Horse District Council** and  
**Drayton Parish Council** asks you to



# HAVE YOUR SAY!

## **'Neighbourhood Policing'** is coming to **DRAYTON**

Let us know what issues most effect you  
by attending the public meeting on  
**THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 7.00pm**  
**Drayton Village Hall**

and by completing and returning the questionnaire overleaf

- **Tell us what would really make a difference to how safe you feel**
- **Let us know which issues you want us to tackle first**
- **Get involved and help us find the right solutions**

*This meeting has been organised by your **Neighbourhood Action Group**, which includes representatives from local parish and district councils, Thames Valley Police, Vale Housing Association, Neighbourhood Watch, the youth service, schools in the area and other community groups*

*A **Neighbourhood Action Group** is a problem-solving group that will work with the community to address the issues you identify*

# your NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

including **Thames Valley Police,**  
**Vale of White Horse District Council** and  
**Drayton Parish Council**

## Neighbourhood Management Public Survey 2006

Please complete this form and hand it in at Dix's MACE store or Drayton Post Office or post to Abingdon Police Station (FAO PS Cranidge), Colwell Drive, Abingdon, OX14 1AU

- Your approximate age
 

Under 18	[ ]
18-29	[ ]
30-59	[ ]
60+	[ ]

- Your gender
 

Male	[ ]
Female	[ ]

- Where do you:
 

live.....
work.....

- Do you feel safe walking around your neighbourhood?
 

Yes	[ ]
No	[ ]

- At what time do you feel vulnerable?
 

8am - 12pm	[ ]
12pm - 4pm	[ ]
4pm - 8pm	[ ]
8pm -12am	[ ]
12am – 4am	[ ]
4am – 8am	[ ]

- Is there an area in your neighbourhood that most concerns you?
 

Yes	[ ]
No	[ ]

If yes where and why.....

- What are the three most important community safety issues in your neighbourhood?
  - (i).....
  - (ii).....
  - (iii).....

- Do you know the name of your local police officer?
 

Yes	[ ]
No	[ ]

Officers Name.....

This questionnaire and the flyer on page 7 is being distributed in the Chronicle through the support of the Parish Council

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CO-OPERATION**



# ALL AROUND

## TODDLERS

Jane Nye

We hope that you all have a lovely half term and that the weather is kind to you. Although Drayton Toddlers will be closed during this week, we will reopen on Thursday 8th June. Don't forget we will be running during the summer holidays in the Village Hall as usual, 9.30-11.30am, and older siblings are welcome.

We are all hoping for good weather on Tuesday 20th June as once again we toddle along for the Barnardo's Toddle in Beale Park in Reading. This is a half-mile sponsored walk which will help to raise money for both the Barnardo's children's charity and for our own toddler group funds. Those who take part will receive a medal and refreshments afterwards. There will be plenty of other activities for the children, including paddling in the paddling pool and trying out the playground. We will also have a picnic. For more details about times, to collect a sponsor forms or to sponsor any of our children, please call in to Drayton Village Hall on Thursday mornings.

Our thanks and best wishes go to Sam Greenall who is stepping down after three years as our treasurer to fulfill other commitments. Thanks for all your hard work and the best of luck with your new ventures.

Looking ahead, plans are in motion for our Toddler fun day in September. Watch this space for more details of what will be on offer this year! We are also planning a Mum's night out to say goodbye to one of our families. Helen, Hannah and family will be moving on to pastures new in the near future. We ladies are planning to go out for a meal in mid June so do let us know if you would like to join us for a toast to Helen!

We look forward to seeing you all again soon and sharing stories about what you get up to in the holiday over a coffee and an orange juice!

## PRE SCHOOL


Trudi Humphreys


This term, children are having fun guessing who's who in our baby photo gallery and have been painting detailed pictures of themselves. We have been exploring staying healthy and have been eating various fruits at break time, working it off with our new sports equipment, purchased with all collected vouchers.

Nestle box tops, Tesco's computers for schools, Persil stars and Sainsbury's Active vouchers are still be gratefully received. We are currently saving for a new computer so please keep bringing them in.

There are places available at pre-school Monday to Friday, morning and afternoon sessions. Also, lunch club is available daily, which with a morning and afternoon session would equate to full day childcare in term time. Please telephone 01235 536094 for an information pack or to arrange a visit.

Term Dates: Term 5 ends 26th May and Term 6 begins on 5th June.



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## SCHOOL REPORT

Claire Soper

It hardly seems possible that we are now entering Term 6 which are the final weeks of the school year! This is the period when the children spend more time out and about visiting places of interest and when particularly the older ones can begin to relax after their SATS have been completed. An Inter Schools Rounders Day is planned which sounds fun.

The Foundation/Year 1 children have been working on a topic about boxes, which has included looking at a space story called 'Whatever Next'. They also found their favourite 'Jack and the Bean-stalk' stories to share in assembly.

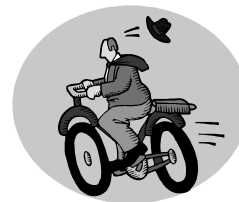
Year 1/2 class have visited St Peter's Church and were then visited by Sister Josie who talked about her job. In science the children have been studying various plants and animals in the school grounds and are growing caterpillars which hopefully turn into butterflies.

Year 3/4 have been very busy visiting Abingdon Library, St Helen's Street and The Museum as part of their Geography and History topic. They learnt how to use the library and looked at records in the local history section. They too visited St Peter's Church to do sketches in preparation for the Art Competition.

Year 5/6 have been studying the work of the artist T. S. Lowry and have made drawings in his style. They have also been involved in a Food Awareness week which has included writing recipes and discussing healthy eating. School hopes to be awarded the status of a 'Healthy School' soon and this is one aspect of that work. A group of 12 Year 5/6 children are working towards their 'Cycling Proficiency' with Mrs Allott; thanks also to Mirja Boyd and Brian Soper for helping with this. Finally, Year 6 are taking part in a Junior Citizen programme aimed at helping them to learn about safety in real life situations.

Well done to everyone who has been using the 'Park and Walk' scheme which was launched in May. To date it has proved to be very successful and has certainly made a noticeable difference in and around Hilliats Field at peak times. Thanks to Carol Arnold for achieving some positive publicity through the Oxford Mail and Abingdon Herald.

Walk and Cycle to School Week at the end of May also reinforced the message again about the importance of getting out of our cars and using our legs!!!!



Fundraising has continued with various activities over the past few weeks raising money for 'National Children's Homes'. The annual Summer Fair will take place on Saturday 17th June from 12-3 at school, with lots of activities for all the family and refreshments on sale. It will start with the traditional opening ceremony followed by maypole dancing by Years 5/6. Do come and join us for an afternoon of fun, hopefully the sun will shine too.

## MORE ALL AROUND

### BOWLS CLUB

### Roll up

We would like to start these notes by paying a special tribute to Geoff Long, for many years a bowler with us and for 5 years in the 90's treasurer for the club. He gave this up because of the extra work he took on for the Chronicle. Geoff was a very popular member of the club and always enjoyed a night's bowling; he was a member of the Rollers team that won the league in 1997, together with D Messenger, F Long, J Bray, F Bray, G Attwood, K, Attwood, B Fidler, B Watts, B Carter, R Williams and D, Jones. Many of them are still bowling, though sadly some have passed on and our thoughts are with Margaret and her family at this time. Thanks for the memory Geoff.

The Summer league is about to get underway and the Club is entering 2 teams this time, hoping to do better than the winter showing by getting a team in the top 2. The internal rose bowl league is drawing to a close, with the Wednesday winners being Jean Mullins, Ann Richardson and Jane Pimm, who will go through to finals day in December. They will play the winners of the Monday League, which is due to end on the 22nd May, and there are 3 teams still in with a chance in this competition, too close to call. One competition was completed and that was the Henry Bunce Handicap Pairs. The winners were Bryn Jones & Norman Hopkins, beating J. Carter and Gillis Tate in the final.

To close these notes I would like to remind all members that the Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday the 7th June at 7-30 and is open to anyone who may be interested as to what goes on. A warm welcome awaits you.

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### TABLE TENNIS CLUB

### John Gould

Welcome to the end of season review.

The A Team finished 7th in Division 1, with Tony Krason, Craig Campbell, and Matthew Davies ensuring the Club's highest ever position in the top flight. We are also very proud that Craig won the Didcot & District Table Tennis Association Closed Single Championship – again a first for our Club. Craig has been a real asset to the team and his support for Tony & Matthew has been invaluable for the team. Craig also finished as the Club's top Senior player this season.

Tony Krason, the team captain, has been awarded the Club's Alan Bachrach Trophy – given to our Club Person of the Year. This is the second time Tony has won the award – he was the first winner in 1993.

The B Team of Dave & Robert Hudson, Ray & Tim Massie were 5th in Division 2. Robert was the Club's top Junior for the second year running on a 50% percentage. The C team finished 7th in Division 2 – which is an excellent result as the team were at one stage bottom of the table. The team of Steve Gardner, John Gould and Dave Harradine plus Francis Soltaine (who returned to France in January) showed great consistency. Steve Gardner was the best performer, finishing on 60% for the season.

There was good and bad for the D Team of Iain Stuart, Kevin Davies, Allan Lovelock, Bob Rhodes & Roy Stocker. The 'bad' was that they ended the season bottom of Division 3 – something that we did not expect as we felt they had a strong line up. However a lot of very good young players are improving all the time and our 'experienced' team suffered the consequences. We hope they bounce back next season. The 'good' was their performance in the Didcot & District Handicap Shield competition where the team reached the final, only to lose against Sutton D. However at least they will pick up deserved medals as runners up.

Our Club Championships held on 14th May produced the following winners:-

Doubles Champions - Matthew Davies & Iain Stuart (left hand pair); Runners Up - Tony Krason & Roy Stocker (right hand pair).



Singles Champion – Robert Hudson; Runner Up - Dave Harradine.

Plate Winner - John Gould; Runner Up – Iain Stuart.

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## The Red Lion

## YET MORE ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON WIVES

**Daphne Barrand**

Our speaker for April came to tell us about the excellent work that they do at the Helen & Douglas House Hospice for children & young adults who are very ill. The hospice was founded by Sister Frances Dominica who unfortunately could not come herself, but sent a representative with a DVD and a Lap Top computer, not easy for several people to see.

Dates for your Diary in June: -

Mon 5th COFFEE Neen Priestnall, 9 Marcham Rd  
 Mon 19th WHIST Janet Hendy, Caudwell DC  
 Wed 26th MEETING Talk & Guided tour of our St. Peter's Church by Rev. Josie Midwinter (and afternoon tea)  
 Meet at the Church 2pm

### W.I.

**Doreen Buckland**

Our May meeting was a very amusing and entertaining evening; the speaker was Mr Stuart Bailey from Rowse Honey Ltd. He talked about the history of the company, how they import 90% of their honey from many different countries and supply the large supermarkets. He said that one in three people over the age of 40 eat honey on a regular basis. In the factory they employ over a hundred people and sell 10,000 tons of honey a year. The added bonus to the evening was a taste of 6 different honeys and all going home with a selection of honeys, lemon curd, and maple syrup sauce. All enjoyed a very good evening. At our next meeting on 8th June Nick Brazil will be talking about Digital Photography, a must for all those interested in this subject.

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It is with regret that I report the recent death of member Mr Doug Rayner. Our sincere condolences are extended to his widow and family.

The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 19th June at 8.00 pm.



### DRAYTON PLAYERS Jean Hager

For our autumn production this year, we shall be presenting two one-act comedies with an interval supper. Rehearsals are already underway and going well. Dates for your diary are 28th to 30th September and there will be further details in the next Chronicle.

We are also entering a one-act play in the Oxfordshire Drama Festival Competition. Last year our entry was very well received and we hope to do even better this year. All plays are to be performed in the Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon, in the week beginning 4th June and our comedy will be one of three entries on the evening of Thursday 8th June; curtain up at 7:30 pm. Our entry is an hilarious Irish comedy which will have you in stitches - thoroughly worth supporting. There will be a repeat of all plays during the following week in Wallingford at the Corn Exchange, our presentation being on Thursday the 15th of June.

If you would like further details give me a call on 531558. Hope to see you there!

# WESTMINSTER LETTER

Ed Vaizey



This column is always a bit behind the times, as I am usually up-dating you on what I have been up to in the last month. But I hope it still makes interesting reading...

I have spent a lot of time with some of our most successful businesses of late. I dropped in to see Taylor & Francis, a 200 year old publishing business, which is responsible for numerous learned journals. This is all part of my extensive education in publishing, as I have participated in a debate on the subject in the House of Commons; launched Blackwell's carbon neutral HQ, and I am now doing "work Experience" with Reed Elsevier. This last link is under the auspices of the Industry and Parliament Trust, who quite rightly take the view that MPs know nothing about business, so ensure that they are embedded with a company for some three weeks over the course of a year.

I also took David Johnson, the Deputy Chief of Mission from the US Embassy, to visit Harwell, and also Milton Park. This was a great opportunity to introduce a senior US diplomat to our part of the world, and the visit went very well until David was cross-examined by Didcot Sixth Formers. They were all very polite, but did not hide their views that they thought the USA was a significant cause of instability in the world. David seemed to enjoy himself though. You may have seen him recently in the papers, as the Embassy is refusing to pay the London Congestion Charge. That may be something on which we might all agree.

I have also met Wallingford campaigners who are calling for more Police – I get about 2 letters a week complaining about the lack of Police from all over the country; and been involved in helping to set up Didcot First, a campaign group for Didcot. All the towns in my constituency have something similar, but I certainly think Didcot needs a strong voice as it grows bigger.

Parliament has been quiet – at least in terms of legislation, if not in terms of politics! The most contentious piece of legislation, on which I have received correspondence, has been Lord Joffe's assisted dying bill. I oppose the Bill, but as you may have seen the Lords has voted it down so it won't come to the Commons.

Thank you to everyone who has said kind words following the news breaking that my wife is expecting our first child.

As usual, I can be contacted at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA or 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk

### Up-coming surgeries, 5.30pm, Fridays:

9 June King Alfred Drive Community Centre, Didcot  
23 June Town Hall, Wallingford

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# DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Webber

## Hospitals

Here we go again. Our Primary Care Trust (PCT) seems hell bent on getting rid of beds in our local Community Hospitals. The effect on Drayton's elderly and those with sick relatives and friends presently looked after at Marcham Road would be drastic indeed. If it is to be stopped, we need to come up with some strong, reasoned arguments and sensible alternative proposals that can be put to the PCT when they go to public consultation. More information, together with a petition will be available at Drayton Village Community Day July 8th.



## Neighbourhood Action Group

Thames Valley Police are piloting this group (NAG!) in Abingdon and some of the local Villages. At an initial meeting at the Thames Valley Police HQ between appointed officers and interested representatives of the villages, it was apparent that:

1. We have an unusually talented, committed young bunch of Police Officers who will be in place for at least two years and deserve our support.
2. Drayton was by far the best-represented community at the meeting with Parish Councillors, District Councillor and Youth Leader all present.
3. We all think that the ideas and objectives of NAG are well worth supporting.

There will be a public Meeting at Drayton Hall on Thursday 22nd June at 7pm. We hope to see you there.

## Drayton Village Community Day

This will be held at Drayton Village Hall between 4pm and 9pm on Saturday July 8th. By the time you read this, invitations to run a stand at this event will have gone out to all those responsible for an organisation or activity in Drayton. We are very keen that no-one is missed, so if you would like an invitation please let me know asap. We would like to uncover any hidden talents or services offered by people in the Village. →

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⇒ continued from page 12

The centre-pieces of the day will, we hope, include the following:

1. A large-scale model of the Hall and ideas to improve/modernise it.
2. A display of archives of the Village including the history of the fundraising and building of the Hall in the 1960s&70s.
3. A Football match between a Neighbourhood Action Police Team and a Drayton Youth team.
4. A Pig Roast
5. Displays by: Parish Council, District Council, Church organisations, Village Hall Committee, Arts, Sports and Hobby group displays.

All the above will be free of charge. Every household will be contacted by flyer so we hope that everyone of all ages will try to get to some part of the event. Parking at the Hall is obviously limited, so if you are able-bodied, please try to come on foot!

At last the sun is shining. Please could it shine on July 8th!



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## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Jennifer Pooley

At the AGM of the Parish Council on Monday 8th May Daniel Scharf was elected Chairman, replacing Paul Knight who, after five years, decided it was time to stand down. Daniel thanked Paul for the work he has done in so ably guiding the Council. The council has several sub-committees/working groups and membership and chairmen of each were also agreed: Finance to be chaired by Robin Butler, Planning by Heather Morrison, General Purposes by Paul Knight and Rights of Way and Conservation by Jenny Pooley.



Two members of the public attended the meeting, both concerned about future housing development at Manor Farm and the effect that may have on the village Green and traffic flow via Gravel Lane. Few members of the Parish Council were serving on the Council when this issue was first raised so those who were initially involved agreed to provide information to newer Council members.

The Council has the task of ensuring things work well in the village, both for the safety and the convenience of residents. To this end the near future should see a new dog bin installed in the Hilliatt Fields area, and work will be done to the entrance to the village hall car park. Tree roots will be trimmed and tarmac renewed.

Paul Knight had been to a Neighbourhood Policing meeting organised by Thames Valley Police. He was encouraged by plans to have greater police presence (Constables and Police Community Support Officers) in local communities, including Drayton, and the opportunity for better partnership between police and the community. Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs) will be set up, but initially there is to be a **public Neighbourhood Policing meeting in Drayton Village Hall at 7.00 pm on 22nd June.**

There are now several groups considering the issue of the proposed reservoir, Fluvius, RAP and GARD. Daniel Scharf represents the Parish Council at the RAP (Reservoir Affected Parishes) meetings each month. This group keeps up to date with Thames Water's plans and will be seeking benefits for local communities if the reservoir is eventually built.

(Paul and I recently went on an organised tour for many councillors of Farmoor reservoir. Thames Water representatives answered questions about water supply and the need for a new reservoir. We saw the extensive treatment works and many leisure/conservation facilities provided by the reservoir. Daily provision of 109 million litres of clean water, which we tend to take for granted, is an impressively complex operation.)

Once again Drayton entered the 'Best Kept Village' competition and judging has recently taken place. Our village caretaker, Steve Sharpe, and his family certainly work hard at litter picking and keeping green areas and footpaths in excellent condition. Sadly, as fast as they litter pick more is dropped to replace it.

All are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. Next month a representative of TV Energy (the support team of the Berks/Bucks/Oxon Countryside Agency's Community Renewables Initiative) will be talking about renewable energy technologies that might be used by community groups in their premises. If this interests you, or if you have any other concern, do come along to the **Caudwell Day Centre on Monday 5th June at 7.45 pm.**

**Note: The Mobile Library service has notified the Council that visits from the library van will in future be on alternate Wednesdays, starting on Wednesday 7th June: Haywards Road: 10.20 – 10.30am; The Green: 10.35 – 10.55am;**

# DRAYTON DIARY

## FOR JUNE

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise  
(To book Drayton Hall call Ann Webb on 531418)

Regular Events are listed opposite

Mon	5	7.30 pm	Parish Council	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Tues	6	pm	Blood Donors Clinic	
Fri	9	5.30 pm	MP Ed Vaizey Surgery	<i>Didcot (see page 12)</i>
Sat	17	9.00 am	Councillor Richard Webber Surgery	
		12.00 pm	FODSA Summer Fair	<i>School</i>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>Chronicle Lottery deadline</b>	<b><i>Vickery's</i></b>
		<b>5.15 pm</b>	<b>Chronicle copy deadline</b>	<b><i>Vickery's box</i></b>
Thur	22	7.00 pm	Neighbourhood Policing Meeting	
Fri	23	5.30 pm	MP Ed Vaizey Surgery	<i>Town Hall, Wallingford</i>

## For July

Sat	8	4.00pm	Drayton Community day (see page 1)	
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## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
5.45 pm	Beavers (Boys / girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
7.00 pm	Keep fit / slimming class	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>

### TUESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
6.30 pm	Weight Watchers	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

### WEDNESDAYS

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

### THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green Car Pk</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

### FRIDAYS

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

### SUNDAYS

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

## L. J. MULLINS

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