

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 30 No. 4

May 2007

## DRAYTON (PC) NEEDS... YOU !!

The idea of a representative democracy is that the people sitting on the parish council are elected by the residents of Drayton to carry out the various tasks which, for good or bad, are to be decided at this level of government. I understand that of the eleven people which are thought necessary to carry out this work, **only 6 have agreed to stand for 'election'**.

I feel very uncomfortable with the situation where these six people are **effectively appointed rather than chosen** by the residents. Are these councillors to interpret the lack of interest in the parish council as a 'vote of no confidence' in them and the system and a signal to hand the job over to the District Council? Or are they to continue as before in a way which seems to have left the 2000 plus residents either disinterested or happy with the way in which things have been run over the last 4 years?

It may be that the bureaucracy involved in election process puts people off? Whatever the reason, I think that the six remaining representatives need to be told. Of course the best possible reaction to the 'news' that so many parts of the village and so many shared interests will be unrepresented, would be for at least 5 people to attend the next few meetings (see page 9) and to offer their services to be co-opted onto the Council.

The May elections should **represent an opportunity to take a turn**. The Council meet on the first Monday of the month in the Caudwell Day Centre at 7.45pm. This is the minimum commitment to which a range of responsibilities can be added; commenting on planning applications and issues, supervising the caretaking of the village, liaising with the police (the Neighbourhood Action Group), and with District and County Councillors and officers on matters of wider importance (such as transport), responsibilities for the improvement and maintenance of rights of way, and the village playgrounds and bus stops and the burial ground.

We have a very capable Clerk and village caretaker who, hopefully, should be there whatever the results of the elections, to keep the Council on an even keel and the village looking good. I can see some **very important issues** arising during the next 4 years during which it would be very unfortunate not to have a full Council to **represent all parts of the village**.

But, **without more support** it is difficult to see that the matters of housing development, the reservoir, improved recreation facilities, energy conservation (let alone a village plan) can be properly dealt with, together with the day to day matters of maintenance, grants and working with District and County Councillors.

If you need some more encouragement to join, **DO speak to me, or one of the existing councillors**. YOU COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
*Daniel Scharf (531107)*

## VLLAGE GREEN PLANNING - LAST CHANCE?

PLEASE see Page 6 for important safety considerations re the proposed changes to the Green - you CAN OBJECT so do check out the details before it's TOO LATE (May 7th deadline).

## Chronicle News (by Jean Barton)

### Advertising Manager

First of all I am delighted to announce that Stephen Fearnley has agreed to take over as Advertising Manager. Thank You Stephen. He will take over fully from the August issue.

### Urgently Wanted - Chronicle Co-ordinator

Secondly we need to find a new Chronicle Co-ordinator. I have recently been appointed as a House for Duty Priest in the village of Greenfield, which is part of the Anglican Saddleworth Team in the Diocese of Manchester and Peter and I will be leaving Drayton in mid July. We are sorry to be leaving Drayton, we shall be letting our home and we intend to return in 3/4 years time.

This is an important job, but one that is very enjoyable. It involves contact with people and keeping an overview. It requires some computer skills, but nothing too complicated. **PLEASE if you would like to know more, contact me**, or if you know of someone who you know would do the job well, get them to contact me, or tell me and I'll do the asking! All members of the team are fantastic and do their respective jobs brilliantly. It is a job that I can recommend.

Thirdly I am very grateful to Margaret Watts who has volunteered to become the **new Agent** for Mott Cottages and Barton Court, the new development opposite the Green. Thank you Margaret and best wishes to you as you move in.

Jean Barton (523702) email: [jeanbarton@onetel.com](mailto:jeanbarton@onetel.com)

NB For MORE Chronicle news, would ADVERTISERS & CONTRIBUTORS please SEE page 11

## Drayton Youth Zone

### DAMASCUS Youth Project

Invites you to the

Second Session – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in May

24<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm to 9pm

Drayton Village Hall (Admission Charge £1)

A drop-in evening for young people

Ages:- school year 6 to school year 10

Tuck shop, table tennis, board games and arts and crafts – fun and games ... **An opportunity to have somewhere to go & be with your friends**

Contact Claire Soper 01235 531632 or Andrew Hopkins 07890 756829 for more details and membership form.

**Please note:- no entry if form is not signed and returned.**

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **June Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, May 25th**, from **Helen Brasington (534045)**, who should be contacted by Agents requiring extra copies.

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

**NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, May 14th 2007.**

**After this deadline**, items are given less precedence for inclusion (No guarantees!), and certainly need to reach us by the 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. It should be realised that the later an item is received, the less precedence it gets, which can affect things when there is pressure on space for texts.

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	<a href="mailto:derek_pooley@talk21.com">derek_pooley@talk21.com</a>
David Lee	<a href="mailto:david_r.lee@ntlworld.com">david_r.lee@ntlworld.com</a>
Tony Holmes	<a href="mailto:tony-holmes@ntlworld.com">tony-holmes@ntlworld.com</a>

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

2. A recording device such as Floppy disk, CD or DVD; **please include hard copy** for checking the formatting and **your address** so that it can be easily returned. This is still a good way to receive copy since it removes much of the work necessary in 3 & 4 below, AND should help to eliminate misprints/errors from scanner problems or dodgy handwriting.

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 1/12<sup>th</sup> page)

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

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

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

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

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

To discuss your requirements **phone Jean Barton**, our (temp) Ads Manager (523702) or email:- [jeanbarton@onetel.com](mailto:jeanbarton@onetel.com)

# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

**Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter**

## RESULTS OF THE APRIL LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mr Eno, Shire House, Oday Hill	Gerald Redman
£20	Mr Morling, 39 Abingdon Road	Jane Henderson
£15	C. King, Gothic House, High Street	Darren McDonald
£10	Mr Flower, 91 Drayton Rd, S'n Courtenay	Clair Soper
£10	Mrs E Hale, 4 Whitehorns Way	Jean Hager
£10	Mr Law, 29 Cornville Rd	Gerald Redman
£10	Mr Hedditch, 47 Abingdon Rd	Jane Henderson
£10	Mrs O'Malley, 3 Haywards Road	Judith Dunster
£10	S. Penney, 2 Lesparre Close	Steve Penney
£10	Mrs Fincham, 29 Lockway	Jenny Pooley

Winning tickets, from a total of 2215 sold, were drawn by members of staff at Aladdin's Cave store; I'll have to buy a bigger ticket.

## Going Away? *KEYMINDERS*

**RELUCTANT TO PUT UPON THE NEIGHBOURS AGAIN?**  
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*FREE QUOTATIONS*

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**01865 739621 OR 07901 826455**

## 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:-
July	18 June	29 June
August	16 July	27 July
Sept	13 August	24 August



## Holiday Villa to Let

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**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)**

## ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON WIVES

Daphne Barrand

Sue Knight came to tell us how she had a complete change of career after being a secretary at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. She saw an advertisement for a Lock Keeper and spent one summer being one.

She made it sound such fun and there is far more to it than just opening and closing the gates. At least no one fell in while she was there.

Dates for your Diary in MAY :-

Mon 14th COFFEE Trudi Buckner 52 Whitehorns Way.  
 Mon 21st WHIST Jean Taylor Caudwell D.C.  
 Wed 30th MEETING The Aftermath of the the Tsunami in S.E. India. (with Brian Woolnough)

*Margaret welcomes you to Sabina's*  
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40 ABINGDON ROAD - DRAYTON - Tel. (01235) 531140

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

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

**Special rates for Pensioners and Free Car Parking**



### The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

It is with regret I report the recent death of member Mr Richard (Dick) Midwinter. Our sincere condolences are extended to his family.

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

## W. J. TAYLOR & SONS

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Morning Coffee and Pastries from 11am daily)

Open All Day (from mid-May) Saturday for Food & Drink

Bookings :- call Gel or Austin (01235 531485)

Drayton (on the Green)

### DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

The choice has now been made for our Autumn production, in late September, and this will be THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST by Oscar Wilde - a really stylish comedy; a delight both to be in and to watch. We last presented this play in around 1965 ! I think it was our third play to go on the boards in the W.I. Hall, in Church Lane, and it still remains a firm favourite of mine. Casting is now underway and I will give further details nearer production time.

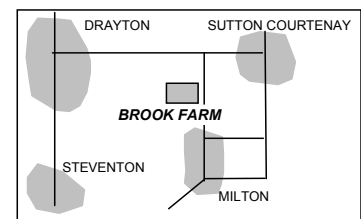
In the meantime, some of the Players are rehearsing a one act comedy - HAVE A NICE DAY - set in a TV studio, for their entry in the Oxfordshire Drama Network Festival, when amateur dramatic groups in the area are able to show a short play of their own choice.

Presentation will be during the week beginning Sunday 4th June in the Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon. Each evening two or three different entries will be staged and, although it is not a competition, there will be an experienced adjudicator present to offer advice, encouragement and constructive criticism. The whole experience is really absorbing and entertaining and we would greatly welcome your support. For further information call our director Deidre Jones on 01235 527865 .

### HAVE YOU TRIED OUR **FREE RANGE EGGS?**



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*Our own lamb available May to December*

# ST PETER'S CHURCH



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

## CHURCH NOTICES

### REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW Traditional).
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW) except 2nd Sunday, when a non-Eucharistic Family Service is held.
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	6.30 pm	Choir Practice (Alt'ate Fridays)	Church Room

### CALENDAR FOR MAY

Tues 1st	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sat 5th	10.00 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods	
Sun 6th	10.00 am	Special Service (see next column)	
Sun 6th	11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods	
Sun 13th	10.00 am	Special Service (see next column)	
Sat 19th	10.00 pm	May-time walk	

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

22 Apr – 5 May:-	Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road
6 – 12 May:-	Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive
13 – 2 May:-	Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green
27 May – 2 Jun:-	High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close



## The Red Lion



Glenn & Janet welcome you

Lunch Served 12-2pm Mon to Sat

Evening Meals Served 6pm-8pm Mon to Fri

Open all day Everyday

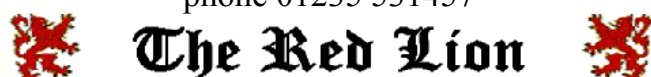
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## The Red Lion



## Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, passed on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1807, outlawed the slave trade in the British colonies. Thomas Clarkson was one of the leading fighters in the long struggle to abolish the Transatlantic Slave Trade and slavery. His life changed when he won a Cambridge University essay prize in 1785 with the paper 'Is it legal to make slaves of others against their will?' His research on the topic convinced him that it was not only illegal but also immoral. He teamed up with William Wilberforce, a Christian Member of Parliament, and together they formed a committee that began a twenty year fight to get the law changed. It then took another 18 years to abolish slavery throughout the British held territories. It is right and proper to commemorate such events in our history, but it is often hard to know how to do it appropriately. Churches Together in England have produced some very good material which I think helps us to do that. They have given three headings which enable us to work through the issues involved :-

**Remember:** It is important to remember the past even those things which are shameful and difficult. People in the 18<sup>th</sup> century defended slavery as a valid form of labour and others made vast profits from the slaves and from their labour.

**Reflect:** People today are still profiting from others, sweat-shop owners, sex traffickers and gang masters. When you buy a cheap toy or bargain item of clothing do you stop to think who produced it and what they were paid for doing the job? It could well have been produced by slave-type labour.

**Respond:** There are many ways we can respond, but one way would be to support Christian Aid Week and their 2007 project in Senegal.

Senegal is a West African country which was a centre of the slave trade in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. French colonial control was established during the suppression of the slave trade and the country became independent in 1960. It is a very arid country with no natural resources. To add to its problems global warming is increasing the desert area. The Christian Aid project this year is to plant mango trees. These help to stabilise the soil and stop erosion, they also produce a very nutritious fruit. Ten mango trees cost £6.50 so it is both cheap and effective.

10am 'Set all Free' Service on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May to remember, reflect and respond to the bi-centenary of the slave trade.

10am Christian Aid Family Service on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May to focus on the current projects of this year. Speaker David Bowman from Christian Aid.

Last year we raised over £1000 from the street collection in the village. So far we have managed to cover every street in Drayton, but many of our regular collector are getting older and would love someone to come and replace them. It is **an opportunity for someone to give up an evening to go round and collect.** If YOU can help please contact Victoria Griffiths (the Christian Aid Coordinator) on 531463.

Yours sincerely

*Josie Midwinter*

## CHIROPODIST - PODIATRIST

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

FOR A HOME VISIT  
PLEASE CONTACT

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

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

**DRAYTON W.I.**

**Brenda Malin**

At the April meeting, our speaker Mr Francis had us all enthralled with the lives and loves of the Mitford girls; a few members had spent the previous day at Asthall, home for several years of this amazing family, so our attention was really caught.

We were delighted with the attendance at the meeting, and also to welcome two new members, Margaret and Sylvia; unfortunately Doreen is still unwell, but making progress, and we look forward to seeing her again soon.

Our Saturday coffee morning was very well attended and raised a substantial sum for our funds.

The talk next month is on owls, and we have a full and varied program for the coming year, something for everyone.

If **you would like to come along** and see what we have to offer, please join us in the village hall, on the **SECOND** Thursday of the month, at 7.30 pm.

We're a friendly group and **you would be very welcome.**



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### **Drayton Pre-School Playgroup    Debbie Bargus**

For our topic this term we have been following the life cycles of various plants, animals and ourselves. The children have been watching the tadpoles as they develop and looking out for any growing flowers.

Thank you to everyone who supported and helped at the Table Top Sale on 25<sup>th</sup> March. It was a great success and helped to raise much needed funds for Preschool. We are once again collecting the Tesco Computer for Schools and Sainsbury's Active Kids 07 vouchers, all gratefully received as they help to provide new and exciting equipment for the children. You can drop them off at Preschool or alternatively either at 41 Sutton Wick Lane or 82, Steventon Road. **Thanks.**

**Our AGM** will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm, we will be looking to elect a new committee to take the Preschool forward into the next year. We are also looking for a **volunteer maintenance person** this year to help with odd jobs about the Preschool. It would involve small repair jobs and general upkeep of the building. If you would be interested please ask at Preschool.

Our **Family Open day** is on Sat 19<sup>th</sup> May 10am til 12. This is a good time for prospective parents and children to come and look around Preschool to see what we do, and also a fun day for current parents and children to enjoy. There will be many activities and stalls.

There is an **easy way to help our fundraising**, if you order goods via the internet, you can register at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) - you choose a charity, we are on the list, then when you buy online from major companies like Amazon, Next, Play.com, Churchill Insurance, AA, Woolies, Ebay and The Book People. They give a percentage to us at no extra cost to you.

Also coming up: **Barnados Toddle at Beale Park** on Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> June, a great day out and an opportunity to raise money for Barnados and Preschool.

## **GEOFF AND MARIAN'S**

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**FAX: 01235 531217**

### **Drayton TODDLER GROUP    Anna Loughlin**

The summer term is well underway and Toddler Group has lots of exciting events to look forward to. By the time this article is in print, Toddler mums will have enjoyed the gourmet delights of the Pampered Chef. Hopefully, we'll be inspired to get creative in the kitchen using our new kitchen gadgets.

An exciting opportunity for Toddlers is a **free fun day** out at Cutteslowe Park, Oxford on Thursday 28 June from 10.00am to 3.00pm. This is to celebrate Oxfordshire's fantastic childcare, early education, play and health services for children under 5. **Bring a packed lunch** and enjoy yourselves with your children. More info at Toddler Group.

Don't forget the Barnardo's Toddle at Beale Park is also coming up soon (Thurs 14th June). As ever, this promises to be an enjoyable and memorable day for everyone.

Many thanks to everyone who took part in our Easter celebrations. A special mention for Faye who baked some delicious goodies and organised some wonderful art and craft activities.

See you all at Toddler Group on Thursday mornings between 9.30 and 11.00am at Drayton Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

**Mrs Suzy Willis**

**MCSP SRP**

**CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPIST**

**Old Lodge, Henleys Lane**

**Drayton, OX14 4HU**

**Tel 01235 531269**

**Please ring for an appointment**

### **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).

# BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Come and join us every Sunday – we look forward to seeing you. Next **Family Services** are (all 11.15am):-  
**May 6th, June 3rd.**

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

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## Wooden Spoon Recipe No. 25 (from June 1992)

**Apricot Pork (serves 4)** ingredients :- 1½ lb boneless lean pork (cubed), 1 tbspn veg oil, 1 onion (chopped), 15 oz can apricot halves in natural juice, 1 tbspn tomato puree, 2 tbspn wine vinegar, 3 tbspn demerara sugar, 2 tbspn Worcester sauce, 2 teaspn powdered mustard, salt & pepper to taste, 1 green pepper (seeded and finely sliced), 1½ tbspn cornflour, 5 tbspn water.

a. Sauté the meat in the oil in a flameproof casserole until lightly browned. Do this in batches or the meat will 'stew' rather than brown. Add the onion and cook until softened.

b. Drain the juice from the apricots into a bowl. Add the tomato puree, vinegar, sugar, mustard and Worcester sauce, mix and season to taste.

c. Add the tomato & spice mixture to the casserole and stir well. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 30 minutes or until the meat is tender.

d. Add the pepper to the meat and cook for a further few minutes. Mix the cornflour with the water until smooth and stir into the casserole, add the drained apricots and cook gently until the sauce has thickened.

e. Serve with plain boiled rice. *Lois Rennells*

## Tonks Brothers (Benjamin Tonks)



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## Proposed Green Layout – Danger Awaits

If you have not recently been reminded of, and formally responded to, the **proposed road changes on the Green** which threaten irreversible damage to the very heart of your village, **this is your last chance** to be informed and to make your views known.

As a condition of planning permission granted for 16 new houses on the Manor Farm site (10 years ago), and despite the no more than minor increase in traffic across the Green which will result, County Highways dictated that there should be just one road across the Green to join the B4017, to comply with a single planning guideline (almost certainly irrelevant in this context), supposedly in the interests of safety.

It is fully obvious to most that the lay out of the roads on the Green works extremely well and efficiently to serve the needs of cars and pedestrians using the facilities (Bus Stops, Post Office, Vickery's, Pub and Chapel). Most important of all it has an outstandingly good record of safety, as has been acknowledged through scrutiny at not one, but two Public Enquiries! It was also the view of a County's Highway's Officer who advises on safety that the additional houses would not necessitate a change.

Despite the fact that this would seem to be **the last opportunity to object** to the proposals, the plans on display on the Village notice board and in the Public Library are inaccurate in detail and not necessarily finalised, and could become distinctly worse, as clearly identified by the Inspector who conducted the 2002 Inquiry.

You need to envisage a road junction which, as advertised, would be equivalent to that of Hilliat Fields with the main road, and this will virtually run into the bus stop, such that buses and vehicles which park there will obscure the view of both drivers and pedestrians, and the latter will find it both intimidating and potentially dangerous to cross. It is very likely that parking on the main road will increase, with the very real likelihood of creating substantial obstruction to traffic flows at peak times, all of this adding to the potential for accidents.

On the West side of the road it is proposed that a substantial piece of pavement will be sliced off to the South of the Post Office, the extraordinary planning behind this being to encourage North moving vehicles to drive through the hard standing of the bus stop so as to 'undertake' North facing cars stationary on the crown of the road while waiting to turn right onto the Green.

If you have not as yet been offered the opportunity to formally express your views on paper, you can visit Vickery's, Geoff Dix's shop or either of the pubs to find paperwork which will give you the opportunity to do so. Should you wish to write to DEFRA, the address is Zone 1/14, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6EB (**closing date 7th May**). A list of the more persuasive reasons for objection will be found with the papers at the above contact points. For more information ring 531606 or e-mail [dr.fursdondavis@orh.nhs.uk](mailto:dr.fursdondavis@orh.nhs.uk).

## YOUR LETTERS

### Drayton Youth Centre Charity - DEADLINE

Dear Sir, 67 Abingdon Rd

Applications are invited from any Youth Organisation in Drayton wishing to apply for **financial assistance** from the above charity.

Applicants are requested to send details in writing with contact address and phone number to:-

Mrs K Tinson, 67 Abingdon Road, Drayton, OX14 4HW.

Applications must be received by **31<sup>st</sup> May 2007** and should state the purpose for which the grant is required. All applications will be considered at the Charity's meeting to be held in June/July (date to be confirmed).

Mrs Karen Tinson

### **Janet Manning HOMOEOPATH**

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### KAYAKING for CHARITY

Dear Sir, 14 Stonehill Walk, Abingdon

We set off on the evening of 28th Feb starting at The Round House on the River Thames. With 152 miles to cover over three days we paddled hard from sunrise to sunset. We had two Kayaks and a two man tent and camped on the river bank at night, so we could have an early start each day.

We arrived at London (The Thames Barrier) on the 3rd of March. We would like to thank everyone who gave so generously for the Children's Hospital in Oxford, we raised over £800. Thank you again from brothers Graham and Geoffrey Batten.

Graham Batten

### **DRAYTON PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP**

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Lunchclub Monday to Friday 11.30am - 12.30pm

Ofsted inspected 1<sup>st</sup> December 2004

[www.ofsted.gov](http://www.ofsted.gov) :- "Drayton Pre-school provides high quality nursery education and children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals . . . Highly motivated staff with good quality teaching skills ensure that every possible learning opportunity is explored in all activities"

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### A RETIREMENT THANKS

Dear Sir,

On my recent retirement as Cook at Drayton C.P. School of 10 years, I was given a most wonderful farewell of gifts of flowers, vouchers and hand crafted cards that the children had made. I was so overwhelmed that, for once, I was speechless.

So, can I please say a very personal thank you to the teaching staff that made me very welcome, to the parents that gave me their support and most of all to the children, past and present, who made my job so enjoyable (bless them).

Lyne Gill



### MAYTIME WALK

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
starts 10am from church**

**The cost of the walk is £5 for adults  
and £3 for children and includes lunch.**

For many centuries the church has observed a time of walking round the boundaries of the parish called 'beating the bounds'. Last year we revived the custom and this year we will do another section of the boundary of the parish. This will include a path which has recently been reopened.

**Registration forms available from the church  
or from Josie at The Vicarage 531374.**

**All proceeds will go to St Peter's church funds**

### CHRISTIAN AID May 13th to 19th

Dear Sir,

The annual Christian Aid house-to-house collection celebrates its 50th birthday this May. Local Christian Aid volunteers in Drayton will be **collecting red envelopes from 13-19th May**. Last year we raised over £1200, contributing to a national total of £15million and hope to raise at least that again this year.

Christian Aid works wherever the need is greatest, regardless of religion, helping poor communities to tackle their problems and build the lives they deserve.

**I would like to thank the residents of Drayton for their support** in the past and hope the collection this year will provide a special birthday present for Christian Aid and its partners worldwide.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Griffiths (collection organiser)

## YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

### MORE ON THAT WRETCHED RESERVOIR

We have just returned from three days at Rutland Water, until now Europe's largest reservoir, owned and run by Anglia Water – the UK's second largest water company.

Built in the early 1970s to supply the growing towns/cities of Peterborough, Leicester and Corby, in the face of fierce opposition from local landowners, politicians and environmentalists, Rutland Water today is a **beautiful place enjoyed by** conservationists, ornithologists, fishermen, cyclists and families of all ages. The locals are now delighted with it. The people of the growing towns have plenty of water and Anglia Water has slowly realised the wonderful PR opportunity it provides for them. So what are we so worried about? Why are we making life so difficult for poor Thames Water?

Well, first of all we'd like a **level playing field** on which to decide whether or not we need a reservoir. We all have to lobby our local MPs to press parliament to provide money for some truly impartial evidence.

Secondly, having gathered evidence that has been properly scrutinised, we would like a genuinely open debate on the needs – not another selling exercise from Thames Water. Thirdly, (if we get that far) we would like the opportunity to consider the **alternatives**. Rutland Water is a **flooded valley** with an intricate outline, only for about 1/2km of its 23km perimeter is there a dam with the type of building materials that TW want to use all round their reservoir. There has to be a very powerful argument that spending more on a below ground/valley reservoir would be money very well spent. It is hard to believe that such a site does not exist anywhere in the TW catchment area.

**What Rutland Water teaches us** is that reservoirs properly designed can be things of great beauty. What it taught Anglia Water was that mighty private monopolies are much more successful when they understand the need for very good public relations. Thames Water seem a long way from learning that lesson. →

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## DRAYTON ART GROUP

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### AND THE WRETCHED MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> ELECTION

I am told by the editors of the Chronicle that if I write anything even remotely party-political, it will be instantly erased and I will be taken out and shot. I hope they will allow me to make one non-party political point.

I don't particularly enjoy knocking on doors, but only once (out of the three hundred doors I have tried so far), have I been greeted with anything other than pleasant politeness.

On the doorstep of one of Drayton's more expensive houses, I was greeted with "Not interested!" and the door closed in my face. I was left with an overwhelming feeling of sadness.

I could have coped with "Go away, I wouldn't vote for your lot!" (or an equivalent) or "I'm not voting for you or anyone else until you've done something about X or Y or Z", but "Not interested!" really depressed me. It is a sad fact that whoever wins the election on May 3<sup>rd</sup> will probably be voted into office by about 20% of the eligible voters. The others will I suppose, forget, be too busy or 'not interested'.

It would be **great for the successful candidate** if our village bucked the trend of falling turnouts at elections. **Please vote for someone on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

*Richard Webber*

(Tel:- 01235 534001      Email :- [info@RJW-online.co.uk](mailto:info@RJW-online.co.uk))

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## PARISH COUNCIL ( April 2)

Apart from the Parish Councillors and County Councillors, Mr. & Mrs. Badcock, just ten members of the public attended the Annual Parish Assembly. Reports were received from the Council working groups and also from Drayton School and the Police/Council NAG (Neighbourhood Action Group).

Melanie Parker (General Purposes Working Group Chair) spoke of the encouraging progress made towards provision of leisure activities for the 11 – 15 year olds, but she also said the Damascus bus visits were suspended temporarily because of the lack of a qualified driver. She mentioned that all of the allotment plots had been let and also that a group of Councillors and others had recently inspected the village hedgerows and noted any needing attention.

Clare Soper, as Drayton School representative to the Council, said there were currently about 100 children on the roll and that the school is making an effort to forge links with the local community. To this end a joint school/church fete is being held in June. Also an environmental awareness day is arranged for June 20<sup>th</sup> and it is hoped the public will support that. The children are working towards the highest award, a Green Flag, for their environmental work. The school has also recently had a good inspection report on its provision for children with special needs.

Richard Webber spoke of the work of NAG which in Drayton is concentrated on deterring speeding drivers, the largest percentage of whom, sadly, are residents of Drayton. The next priority for the NAG team will probably be anti-social behaviour. →

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On the footpath front, two bridleways have been upgraded by the OCC this year and many fallen trees removed. It is hoped that at last we may see the completion of the Council's scheme to reinstate several paths' historic names by the end of this year.

In the absence of the Council's treasurer, the chairman, Daniel Scharf, mentioned that residents should not be surprised by the larger precept this year. The Council had been advised by the auditor to reduce its reserves for the past two years. Having used reserves to cover its normal financial commitments it is now necessary to increase the precept for the coming year.

Other matters mentioned were:- public transport and bus services through the village; the reservoir and the Council's intention to respond to Thames Water when necessary; new regulations about gravestones in the burial ground; the future of the village green and The Earl of Plymouth Estate's development plans; the Council's response to the past year's 41 planning applications (most of them passed by the VWHDC even when objections were raised by the PC).

Finally councillor Badcock thanked the Parish Councillors for all their work and commitment, saying it was a pleasure to work with such a civilised group!

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7.45pm** in the Caudwell Day centre. **All are welcome to attend.**

*Jenny Pooley*

## ST PETER'S PLANT SALE

**SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MAY FROM 10AM TO 1 PM**

The Plant Sale will be from 10am to 1pm and refreshments will be available during that time so come along and buy your bedding plants and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some homemade cake.

## Drayton School Anita Hedditch

The main two recent events have been the Year 5 & 6 Yenworthy Trip and a sponsored walk attended by the whole school.

Firstly the **Sponsored walk**. It took place on a reasonably fine day, but the ground was muddy from previous rain. The classes walked separately covering various distances along the cement path. The longest distance was about 3 miles, which from what I gather was walked, run, speedwalked and puddle splashed by years 1 - 6. The Reception class with shorter legs covered part of the distance. Sponsorship was requested to raise the last amount of money needed for the paths to the new bicycle sheds. Great fun was had by all but some resuscitation was needed of a certain year 3/4 teacher who became rather concerned by her mud splattered (covered) girls. Nothing that tea and cake couldn't sort!

No news yet of the amount raised, but hopefully enough to cover the paths. School is looking very smart.

Yenworthy was enjoyed by all of the year 5 and 6 children. The activities started with a ropes course and ended with a walk in Lyn Valley and a talk about the Lyn Valley flood. I have seen pictures of Nursery Rhyme rock with rather odd looking mermaids/men in waterproofs singing songs being partly sheltered from the waves by a rock. Waterfall climbing, zip wire, orienteering and a night walk were other activities that were organised. The children arrived back looking really well - a healthy eating approach, the super weather and outdoors air enjoyed by all. The teachers had the Easter Break to recover, also Colin, the parent helper.

Years 1 and 2 have been learning to tell the time. No excuse for being late to school these days. Years 3 and 4 have been learning about circuits and conductors. In their Design and Technology some wonderful moving monsters are appearing.

Years 5 and 6 have been learning about rivers and their origins. This has been incorporated in their art class creating river pictures in perspective. They have also had another trip to the Sutton Courtenay Eco Centre discussing this time how to save water, encouraging everyone to turn taps off when cleaning their teeth, amongst other things. This centre is proving to be a good local education centre for the school.

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## CYCLING TO SCHOOL (Stop Press)

This is the gist of a press-release, relating to the School's new cycle parking and a new path, will have been opened on April 25th:-

### Council gets on its bike to support cycling at Drayton school

Pupils at Drayton Primary School near Abingdon will be taking part in a special ceremony to officially open new cycle parking and a new path. The work was completed following the completion of a county council school travel plan. Both jobs were partly funded and supported by Oxfordshire County Council.

Teacher Joanne Allott, Drayton School's Travel Plans Co-ordinator, said: "We are thrilled with our new cycle parking which will certainly help to encourage more children to cycle to school."

A number of activities will be taking place throughout the day at Drayton School with the emphasis on encouraging children to cycle to school. Schools in Oxfordshire that have developed a school travel plan have had significant success in reducing the number of car journeys made to and from school.

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## BOUNDING & GUNGE (Josie Midwinter)

My love of walking prompted me last year to revive the Maytime custom of 'beating the bound'. Last year a group of about 35 of us had an enjoyable day (despite the rain) tramping along the various boundary paths. So if you come this year (see ad on page 7 for more details) then you'll be able to see the good work which has been done. The walk is great fun, **accompanied children and dogs are welcome** and we'll finish up at the church room for a lovely soup and roll lunch.

This year the school and the church are joining forces to have a Summer Fete on Saturday 16 June in the school grounds. One of the highlights of previous school Fetes has been the 'gunging' of the head teacher by the Year 6 children. This year in recognition of the school and church joining forces the Vicar is 'willing' to be 'gunged' - but it all depends who gets the most sponsorship, the minimum for each participant is £100. So in the weeks leading up to the Fete, Mrs Pauline Higgs (the Head teacher) and Rev Josie Midwinter (The Vicar) will go head to head to see who can raise the most money.

Sponsorship Forms will be available from school, church and local shops from 10th May so you can play your part in making it all happen.

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## NOTICE BOARD

Abingdon Bowling Club, situated in Albert Park, are holding a recruitment weekend in June:- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 5 – 7:30 p.m. and Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 2 – 7 p.m. **All that is needed are flat shoes.** Come and join us, **all welcome.**

## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 3.00 pm to 4:30 pm and you are invited to drop in during these times.

The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our next two dates are May 1st & June 5th. If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

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## LISTINGS

**Ed Vaizey (MP)** has fairly local 'surgeries' in May :- both Fridays, from 5.30pm for an hour and a half, 4th @ DIDCOT (King Alfred Drive Community Centre), and 25th @ GROVE (Old Mill Hall).

If anyone would like to join **GARD** or display a 'No Reservoir' sign on their property, please contact Carole Hooper (07973 493664) or Lesley Lovell at [lesleylovell1@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleylovell1@btinternet.com)

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## More Chronicle News (from p1)

### ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE ESPECIALLY

Lawrence has very kindly agreed to put any Chronicle post that he receives into the Chronicle Letter Box. **We are very thankful** to him for all his support of the Drayton Chronicle, including his monthly advert.

So in future please can all correspondence be addressed for the attention of either the Editor OR THE Advertising Manager (as appropriate) at:- DRAYTON CHRONICLE c/o A.L.Vickery & Son, 5 The Green, Drayton, OX14 4JA

Any communication can still, of course be placed in the Chronicle box outside Vickery's during shop hours (Mon - Sat 9am-5.30pm) thus saving postage. Once again to all, thank you for your support **Jean Barton** Chronicle Co-ordinator

## DRAYTON SUMMER FETE

THIS WILL BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON

**SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE** from 2pm to 5pm

**MORE DETAILS IN THE JUNE CHRONICLE**

**PROCEEDS TO THE SCHOOL & ST PETER'S CHURCH**

**PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY**

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## DIARY FOR MAY

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

To book Drayton Hall ring 531418 To call the Hall ring 528686

NB 1 If your event isn't listed, IT COULD HAVE BEEN!!!

NB 2 You may now check Hall bookings online :-

[www.draytonvh.org.uk](http://www.draytonvh.org.uk) or call the above number

Tues	1	3.00pm	1st Tues Connections (p11)	Church Room
Thurs	3		Local Election Day	
Fri	4	8.00pm	Pre-school Playgroup AGM (see p5)	School
Mon	7	7.45pm	Parish Council Meeting (p9)	Caudwell DC
Mon	14	5.00pm	CHRONICLE DEADLINE	Vickery's
Tues	15	10.00am	SEESAW Fair (see p11)	Steventon Hall
Sat	19	10.00am	Pre-school Playgroup Open Day (p5/7)	
		10.00am	Plant Sale (to 1pm)	St Peter's
Thur	31		Youth Charity Deadline (see p7)	

# B

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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.

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School 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
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Table Tennis, practice	School
7.45 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	St Peter's
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	

### TUESDAYS

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

### WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School 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 Wednesday in the month)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
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
7.30 pm	Table Tennis - League	School

### THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Foot Clinic (1st Thurs)	Caudwell Day Centre
9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Lady Chapel
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	Haywards Rd
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	The Green Car Pk
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
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)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	Caudwell DC
6.30pm	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
11.15 am	Family Time (1st Sun)	Baptist Church

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### Letters to the Editor

You may request that your name & address are not shown; however we MUST have those details, and phone number .

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**& Oxfordshire County** Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).