

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 30 No. 7

August 2007

## DRAYTON BROWNIES ARE 50 !

In November 1957, fifty years ago, 1st Drayton Brownies were registered at the Headquarters of the Girl Guide Association in London. Brownies have been meeting every week in term time during those years; at one point there were two Brownie Packs in the village.

Were YOU a member of the pack at some time since 1957, or do you know anyone who was ? This photo is of a Drayton Brownie in 1964 - many thanks to Hilary Lyford (nee Franklin) for lending it to us.



Her Brownie Guider was Mavis James, who was involved with the Pack from its inception, and for many years afterwards. The Pack was founded by Mrs Ethel Lancaster, wife of the Vicar of Drayton in 1957.

On **Sunday November 11th** this year we plan to **celebrate our 50th birthday** with a service at St Peter's Church and a party afterwards, and **would love to invite as many former Brownies as we can – so do get in touch!**

We would love to hear from you and to borrow any photos or records you may still have.

Do contact me with any details or queries:-

Mary Thompson, Brownie Guider,

Stocks Lane Farm , Steventon. (Abingdon 832077).

IN THIS ISSUE :- pieces from faraway former residents Gillian von Hoven, and Dorothy Davies, plus reminiscing from a former Wing Commander on the Beverley air tragedy.

## Village History (by Doggerelle)

What a very fine time was the history weekend  
For all of the folk who contrived to attend.  
Displays were arranged to enchant and give pleasure,  
The churches exhibited much we should treasure:  
Historical documents, maps and stained glass,  
Details of school-work and lessons in class,  
Punishment records of youths who were bad,  
Citations for bravery, touching and sad,  
Registers telling of deaths and of marriage,  
Even displayed was a burial carriage.  
Strips and enclosures and methods of farming,  
Aeroplane crashes, conflagrations alarming,  
Archaeology finds, ancient flints and old axes,  
Accounts of antiquity's tithing and taxes,  
Beautiful wedding gowns, christening frocks,  
Canal preservation and pictures of stocks,  
Brickworks whose labours have left many traces,  
Steam engine rallies renowned for their races.  
Some of our past is enshrouded in mystery,  
But thanks to the folk who recorded our history  
Much emerged from the shadows and into the light;  
What a splendid weekend of keenest delight!

AND HERE, sadly, is a little unwanted village history, a shot of the flooding in Sutton Wick, Friday July 20th, submitted by Andrew Beacroft as the Chronicle is going to the printer.



## Drayton Youth Zone

**DAMASCUS Youth Project**

**Next Session – 23rd August 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

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

Your Letters P7    A Reservoir delay? P11    Child Minder ? P13    All you need to know re Future Issues P2

No divers / actors here! P6    A new sport for YOU? P8    Who won? P2    Get your clippers out?! P9

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **September Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, August 24th**, from **Shirley Thomas (531626)**, who should be contacted by Agents requiring extra copies.

The Editor will be **David Lee (202699)**. 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, August 13th 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** Stephen Fearnley, our Ads Manager (531347) or email:- [struth@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:struth@ukonline.co.uk)

# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

**Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter**

## RESULTS OF THE JULY LOTTERY

| Prize | Winner                              | Agent          |
|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| £25   | T Shebbear 16 Sutton Wick Lane      | Bette Hamilton |
| £20   | G. Redman, 43 High Street           | Gerald Redman  |
| £15   | R. Raines, 2 Newman Lane            | Jean Oliver    |
| £10   | D. Brooks, 70 Whitehorns Way        | Daphne Barrand |
| £10   | Mrs Bolton, 30 Lyford Close         | Gerald Redman  |
| £10   | G. Redman, 43 High Street           | Gerald Redman  |
| £10   | Mr. Donovan, 1 Whitehorns Way       | Trudi Buckner  |
| £10   | M. Beames, 28 High Street           | Mary Alexander |
| £10   | D. Caudwell, The Manor, High Street | Margaret Long  |
| £10   | J. Matthews, 5 High Street          | Mary Alexander |

Winning tickets, from a total of 2109 sold, were drawn by members of staff at the MACE shop. We do still need more Agents - could YOU help cover one of our areas? (20 - 30 homes).

## Going Away? KEYPONDERS

**RELUCTANT TO PUT UPON THE NEIGHBOURS AGAIN?**  
**KEYMINDERS WILL VISIT YOUR HOME, PAMPER & FEED PETS, WATER PLANTS & CHECK SECURITY. WE ARE FULLY INSURED, CARING PROFESSIONALS.**  
 Tel: **01235 520290** email: [info@keyminders.co.uk](mailto:info@keyminders.co.uk)

## 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:- |
|-----------|---|--|
| October   | 17 Sept   | 28 Sept  |
| November  | 15 Oct  | 26 Oct   |
| December  | 19 Nov  | 30 Nov   |

## GARDEN RESCUE

*FENCING, TURFING, PAVING & PATIOS*

*ALL ASPECTS OF GARDENING & LANDSCAPING COVERED BY OUR FULLY TRAINED, INSURED PROFESSIONALS*

*(CONIFER HEDGES REDUCED to COMPLY with CURRENT LEGISLATION)*

*FREE QUOTATIONS*

*PLEASE CALL A. M. or D.J. NEWMAN on*

**01865 739621**

**OR**

**07901 826455**

## employmentlawplus

**Specialist employment law services for businesses and individuals**

Contracts, Compromise agreements, Dismissals, Discrimination, Employment Tribunals, Redundancy Regulated by the Law Society

Member of the Employment Lawyers Network

**Call Jill Kelly 01235 861919**

**[www.employmentlawplus.com](http://www.employmentlawplus.com)**

## ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON WIVES

Pam Lacey

Mrs Olive Lovelady gave us a very interesting insight into the day-to-day life at Milton Manor (prior to our July visit) which is still owned by the Mockler family, having been their family home since 1666. It was vacated in 1912 to be taken over by the MoD during the War years, being returned to them in 1947.

Dates for your Diary in AUGUST:-

Mon 6th COFFEE Eve Sharp, 25 Steventon Road.  
 Mon 20th WHIST Barbara Carter Caudwell D.C.  
 Wed 29th BRING & SHARE LUNCH Mary Alexander's  
 (members who wish to go plse contact Ann Hutchings)

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

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

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

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

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



### The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

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

The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday 20th August at 8pm.

## SWEDE MADE UK Ltd

WE FIT KITCHENS AND WARDROBES

WE CAN MAKE YOU A KITCHEN OR WARDROBE

OR SIMPLY FIT ONE YOU HAVE BOUGHT!

ALL TILING, ELECTRICS & PLUMBING INCLUDED IN  
 THE PRICE

HOME TELEPHONE JOHN: 01235 533433

WORKSHOP: 01865 864636

## W. J. TAYLOR & SONS

FORGE GARAGE



HIGH STREET, DRAYTON

Nr. ABINGDON, OXON OX14 4JW

SUN Tuning

Car, M/C & 3-Wheeler

**M.O.T. WHILE YOU WAIT**

CAR - Service and Repairs

VINTAGE ROLLS-ROYCE WEDDING HIRE

Telephone ABINGDON 531350

## THE WHEATSHEAF

Austin & Geraldine : Welcome you to enjoy

Traditional Home Cooked Food

Fine Wines and Beers

In Friendly Comfortable Surroundings.

**EAT AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE BUFFET  
 EVERY SATURDAY EVENING**

Starting from 6 pm to 8:30 pm

Families more than welcome

Adults £8.95 Children £5.00 Best to book

**Take away Fish & Chips served Mon - Sat 'til 8pm**

**Delicious Home Cooked Roast Lunch: Sun 12-5pm**

Senior Citizens :- Lunchtime Menu

Tuesday to Friday just £5.95 (inc sweet)

Open All Day Saturday for Food & Drink

Bookings :- call Gel or Austin (01235 531485)

Drayton (on the Green)

### DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

Rehearsals for our next production, THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, are gathering pace and you can look forward to a really amusing and light hearted evening's entertainment, so make a note in your diary of the dates :- 20, 21 and 22 September – and watch out for full details in our advertisement. Booking will be again by phone (200350) or postal application.

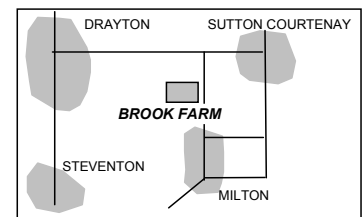
From 29th August – 1st September, at the Unicorn Theatre, there will be performances of THE DRESSER by Ronald Harwood. This is a strong drama laced with many good touches of humour. The lead actors are two members of Drayton Players, and other parts also feature members of our group. For further information contact Deidre Jones (527865) or watch out for advertising posters nearer the production date.

Finishing with some really great news, I am very pleased to report that the poster for our production of THE BOY FRIEND, designed by John Freeman and Deidre Jones, has won an award. It was entered for a design competition run by the National Operatic and Drama Association (NODA) to which we are affiliated and came second in the whole of the London region. Very gratifying; congratulations to Deidre and John !

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



Brook Farm, Milton Road



**NEW OPENING HOURS.....** Mon to Sat 9.00 am to 1.00pm,  
 Except Friday.....9.00am to 6.00pm

**FREE RANGE EGGS, & POTATOES (if available)**

*Our own lamb available May to December*

# ST PETER'S CHURCH



**Priest in Charge** Revd Sister Josie Midwinter 531374  
**Minister in training & Choir** Mrs Rosie Bruce 525284  
**Churchwardens** Mrs Sue Harris 848361  
 Mrs Val Cross 535183  
**Organist** 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  |
| Thursday | 9.30 am  | Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel  |

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

|        |         |                                  |             |
|--------|---------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Monday | 7.45 pm | Bellringing Practice             | Bell Tower  |
| Friday | 6.30 pm | Choir Practice (Alt'ate Fridays) | Church Room |

### CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

|      |     |          |   |
|------|-----|----------|---|
| Sat  | 4th | 10.00 am | Sale of Fair Trade goods (until 11 am)    |
| Sun  | 5th | 11.15 am | Sale of Fair Trade goods (until 11.45 am) |
| Tues | 7th | 3.00 pm  | 1st Tuesday Connections Church Room       |

### PARISH REGISTER

**Burial of Ashes** June 19th **Queenie White**

.....

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

29 Jul - 4 Aug:- Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road  
 5 - 11 Aug:- Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive  
 12 - 25 Aug:- Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green  
 26 Aug- 1 Sept:- High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close

(Ed :- and perhaps also the soul of whoever recently stole a flower vase from the graveyard? - according to ad in Post Office)



## 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

Ask About Our Loyalty Reward Card

Enjoy dining in traditional pub surroundings or, weather permitting, in our beautiful garden, complete with covered patio.

Senior Citizen discount 20%, Monday - Friday

For party bookings or enquiries

phone 01235 531457



## The Red Lion

## Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

In early July, the BBC series 'Saving Planet Earth' showed how changing climate and pressure from expanding human communities is making it difficult for certain groups of animals to survive. One programme found Graham Norton roughing it in the highland region of Ethiopia to see the plight of mountain wolves. In another Nick Knowles travelled to Borneo to observe the Orang-utans whose habitat is disappearing so fast they will probably be extinct in the next decade. I was glad however that the programme also included British wildlife as well as choosing the more exotic locations. So we went to Salisbury Plain to see the reintroduction of bustards ..... to some spooky caves to track bats and ... would you believe it the river bank to catch eels!

As the human population grows, and as we continue to face up to the challenges of climate change, we are increasingly aware of our need to change our lifestyle in order to preserve our planet for future generations. Sometimes the need to do this seems overwhelming and we feel that there is little we can do to alter the situation. It is true that global issues do have to be dealt with by Governments, but there is **much we can do as individuals** even here in our village.

For some time now St Peter's church has been promoting **Fair Trade Goods** by holding regular stalls in the church. **Purchasing these products helps whole communities** to develop a sustainable way of life and not need to call on aid or other global resources to support them.

In June the school held an Energy Day, giving useful information about how we can reduce the energy we use. They have introduced a question list to help people assess how much they are doing to bring down their energy consumption. Those who filled in the list were given a sticker - my front window now has one saying 'Green Cred: Level One'. No doubt I will have to do more to progress to Level Two.

**It is good to see that so many more people in Drayton** are using their **Green Boxes for recyclable items** - and the number of **Brown Bins for cardboard and garden waste have more than doubled**.

I often feel that we could do more to make the churchyard a haven for wildlife. The West churchyard is quiet and so very suitable for this purpose. In the spring we leave a section of the grass uncut so that wild flowers can seed. We have also introduced wood piles to make habitats for insects like woodlice. There is however a lot more we could do. I wonder if there are some people in the community who would like **to form a conservation group** to develop the churchyard in this way? We may not be able to travel to Ethiopia or Borneo ... or even Salisbury Plain. But the churchyard is just down the road and could be another piece in the jigsaw to combat the effects of global warming and endangered species.

In the book of Genesis we read that the first human beings were charged with the responsibility to care for all creation - **that responsibility is still ours today**.

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**

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**.



### **N. HAYCROFT PLUMBING**

*A complete Plumbing Service*

-----  
Taps, Tanks, Ball Valves, Leaks,  
Stopcocks, Burst Pipes, Pumps, Cylinders,  
Immersion, Radiators, Basins, Sinks.  
Installation of Washing Machines, Dishwashers,  
Showers & Bathrooms

*Over 30 years experience*

All work fully guaranteed and fully insured

Tel : **01235 814739**

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

The butterflies have now hatched from their cocoons and have flown away; our frogs are now fully developed and hopping around.

Our holiday theme has continued, we have made a car from cardboard boxes; the children have enjoyed pretending to go on their hols. We've also been exploring food by having exploding milk (milk mixed with washing up liquid in a tray) and sea creatures set in jelly. The children had great fun finding them and trying to get them out.

A big thank you to the committee of the Drayton Youth Centre Charity for the much needed **donation towards new equipment** for Preschool, it is really appreciated by all.

Also thank you to everybody that has donated the Tesco Computer for Schools and Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers. We have managed to order some great things for the children to play with and look forward to receiving them in the new school year.

We have been offered use of the School hall on one morning per week from next term; this will be great as we will be able to do more active games without having to check the weather report!! Many thanks to School for this.

We are now closed for the summer and **reopen** on Wednesday 5th September 2007. We still have a few sessions available for September. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Debbie on 01235 204609 or leave a message at Preschool on 01235 536094.

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. We have just received our first cheque of £27.26, which is great especially as it hasn't cost anybody anything extra.

Also coming up:- Garden Maintenance Day, date to be confirmed.

### **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).

## **ALISTAIR & CHRISTINE'S**

### **MACE STORE**

**FOR ALL YOUR DELIVERED PAPERS,  
MAGAZINES and CARDS,**

**GROCERIES, FROZEN FOODS,  
OFF LICENCE and SAVOURY SNACKS.**

**LOTTERY TICKETS**

**LINK CASH MACHINE AVAILABLE**

**BREAD BAKED DAILY**

**ORDERS TAKEN FOR FRESH BREAD**

**MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS TAKEN**

**TEL: 01235 202855**

**FAX: 01235 531217**

### **Drayton TODDLER GROUP      Jane Nye**

We hope that you are all having a lovely summer holiday, whether you have been away on holiday or are playing happily at home with friends. Don't forget that we continue to run throughout the holidays on **Thursday** morning at the **village hall**, from **9.30 – 11.30am**. Older siblings are also welcome.

In addition to our normal sessions, we are planning a day out at a venue yet to be decided on a different day of the week at some point in August. This will be a further opportunity for mums with older children to continue to meet up for a chat and give everyone more room to play. If you have any ideas as to where we can go, or want more info, please call Jane (533861) or drop in on Thursday morning.

Those of us who went to the Surestart event at Cutteslowe Park had a wonderful time and the weather behaved itself too! There was a chance for plenty fairground rides, sitting in a fire engine, jumping up and down on bouncy castles and rides around the field on a miniature bus to name a few activities. Many of us also had a ride on the mini railway that is at the park. If you didn't make it, and get the opportunity to go next year, we would highly recommend it.

Plans for our annual Fun Day, (Thurs 4th October), are well under way. This fundraising event will take place during our normal Toddler sessions in the morning. The Tempest photographer has been booked and we are hoping Usborne Books will also be there as well as other stalls. **All volunteers** to help make the morning run smoothly will be **welcome**, including donations of raffle prizes and cakes. Watch this space for more details of the morning's activities.

**Our thanks go to Joy** for helping Thursday mornings run smoothly. The children love her juice, fruit and biscuits whilst mums appreciate having a cup of tea made for them! Her help in packing away at the end of each session is invaluable.

We look forward to seeing you soon on Thursday mornings!

**Mrs Suzy Willis**

**MCSP SRP**

**CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPIST**

**Old Lodge, Henleys Lane**

**Drayton, OX14 4HU**

**Tel 01235 531269**

**Please ring for an appointment**

## 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.  
EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

### SIMON MURRAY MPTA CGLI M.I.M.I.T. N.T.C. DIPLOMA

Piano Tuning and Repairs

By Qualified,

Experienced Technician

Most of Oxfordshire and  
Surrounding Areas Covered

Please telephone 01235 525427 early evening  
or leave a message on the answer-phone during the day



### DAMASCUS Local History Weekend 29 June – 1 July

Steventon was seething, Drayton was packed, even little Appleford was thronged, and I had to queue just to get in to Sutton Courtenay. Milton was little better. Our common history was displayed in our churches for everyone to see: our neighbours, our friends and our communities were sharing their lives with us in all their range and richness.

When I looked at my watch I found I'd spent *hours* in our church, and not much less in the others. How could I take so long reading about a ditch? Or looking at Victorian parish newsletters? Time flew. It was hard to know what to see next. The great fire in Drayton two hundred years ago, the horrifying Beverley plane crash at Sutton Wick in 1957, the traction-engines filmed in Appleford in the early fifties, the glories of the lace and embroidery on the christening-gowns, the meticulously-researched and sometimes chastening histories of long-gone village men who died in wars. There was the painstaking work of those who survey and record our churchyards and their memorials, the village societies, our schools then and now with the contributions of our children, the careful accounts of our parish benefactors, the ancient bequests and generosity of our predecessors, the aged maps, the strange yet familiar scenes from the postcards, the stiff figures staring at us from the photos. These long-gone people are surely just us at a remove – and we shared, and we enjoyed, and we were overwhelmed by it all.

The strawberries, coffee, cakes and tea were wonderfully restorative, but perhaps best of all was the friendliness, neighbourliness and eagerness to share. It was such a drawing-together, such a celebration of our shared pride in our communities, such an opportunity to meet, to talk, to wonder, to impart. How many hundreds of hours went into preparing this magnificent accrual of our mutual heritage? Thanks to all for the glimpses of private worlds of families, homes and lives. And thanks to everyone who made it happen. *Ann Grimm*

The event raised £586 for each of the participating churches. Thank you to everyone who helped make this weekend such a success. *Josie Midwinter*

  
**CLOCK REPAIRS  
AND RESTORATION**  
**DAVID N. BENN**  
Fellow, British Horological Institute  
4 Latton Close, Chilton, Oxon. OX11 0SU  
**Telephone (01235) 834303**  
FREE ESTIMATES, COLLECTION & DELIVERY



### Drayton Football Club

A huge thank-you to everyone who helped Drayton Football Club celebrate its Centenary at Drayton Golf Club on Friday 15th June. Nearly 300 people turned up on the night to share stories and reminisce over a few beers. Special mention to our most honoured guest, Lionel Huggins (see photo below), who captained the Drayton side to victory in the War Memorial Cup in 1937, it was good to see you there

Awards were also given out for the 2006/7 Season, as follows :-

First Team Managers Player of the Year – Mark Orlando

First Team Players Player of the Year – Mark Orlando

Reserve Team Managers Player of the Year – Richard Payne

Reserve Team Players Player of the Year – Ben Hibbins

Clubman of the Year – Robbie McNeill

Most Promising Player of the Year – Kevin Stanley

Young Player of the Year – Tom Hemmings

Golden Boot – Danny Curran, Club Loyalty Award – Kenny Hope

By the time you read this, we will have started pre-season training, which takes place at Drayton FC, Lockway every Tuesday at 7pm. Players and helpers are **more than welcome** to join us. Please contact Alan Alston (531425) or Paul Evans (203108) for more details.

May we also take this opportunity to thank Frank Caudwell for his extremely kind gesture of having the Pavillion recently refurbished, inside and out.

Here's to a successful Season, on and off the pitch.



Pictured are some of the veteran players who attended the Centenary bash, Don Denton, Tom Barnard, Lionel Huggins, Bryn Jones, Vernon Jones, and Ivor Chapman. *Paul Evans*

# YOUR LETTERS

## Drayton Youth Centre Charity - Awards

Dear Sir, 67 Abingdon Rd

**DRAYTON YOUTH CENTRE CHARITY** held their annual meeting on Thursday 21st June, the following grants were made:-

F.O.D.S.A - £300; PAWS After School Club - £300;  
Drayton Pre-school - £400; Drayton Toddlers - £200;  
Drayton Brownies - £150; Drayton Youth Zone - 1 Years Village Hall Rent (£150); Village Community Day - £50 (Bouncy Castle hire);  
Damascus Project - £200; Drayton Football U8s - £150 for new kit;  
Peter Hemsley & Michael Bird - £100 each towards Expedition to Morocco; Abingdon Eagles Basketball - £300.

Mrs Karen Tinson

## **Janet Manning HOMOEOPATH**

B.A. Dip.Ed. M.A. Lic LCCH. RSHom  
Safe, gentle healing, suitable for all ages  
Daytime, Evening appointments and Home visits

**01235 527603**

11 Newman Lane, Drayton

## Centenary Celebrations

Dear Sir, 97 Drayton Road

May I, through the Chronicle, thank Drayton Football Club for the splendid, well-organised Centenary Celebrations evening at Drayton Golf Club.

My family enjoyed meeting people we had not seen for a long time, so thanks to Alan Alston and the Committee for a lovely evening.

Fred Stevens

## **Home Helpers Care Ltd**

The Office 25 The Nursery Sutton Courtenay Oxon OX14 4UA  
Tel: 01235 848822 Fax 01235 848688

(Established since 1993)

### **Providing Services in the South & Vale to:**

*Private Customers / Direct Payment Customers /  
Social Services Funded Customers / Independent Living Customers.  
Comprehensive Range of Care Services incl Palliative Care  
Day & Night Sitters : Meals : At home laundry  
Shopping / Collecting Pensions / Paying Bills / Light Domestic Tasks  
Call the team for further information 01235 848822*

## **A RECOVERY 'THANK YOU'**

Dear Sir, Shrewsbury

I have just had a hip replacement operation, and through the Chronicle, I'd like to thank the many friends I still have in Drayton for all their support.

It has been wonderful to receive so many cards, flowers, thoughts, prayers and phone calls from my many dear friends.

Love to you all, Gillian von Hoven

## Millennium Green News

Dear Sir, Sutton Wick Lane

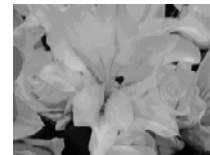
It was lovely to see such an enthusiastic group at the Millennium pond meeting on a pleasant evening. The speaker Rod D' Ayala told us so much (mostly standing in his waders in the pond whilst pond dipping) and I know we all learnt a lot. As a result, we have many offers of help when the time comes next month, to start clearing out the invasive plants. Rod will help and advise us and it will be an ongoing task. We've also had welcome offers of support from people who were unable to come to the evening talk. We will make contact when we have a date, probably a Saturday morning in August.

The litter collection is working well, on the whole, although I think some people forget. If you find you do not have time to take your turn and would like to come off the rota, please let us know (on 531205) as we have fresh offers of help from people who regularly use the Green. We have had two very willing, helpful, litter-picking children who are only 4 and 6. They did it most days and wanted to do it even when there was nothing to pick up. Thank you to Sam and Holly for doing a very good job. Thank you also to people who regularly pick up litter whether they are on the rota or not. It is Drayton's Green for us all to enjoy and **we must look after it.**

Gwen & Tony Price



## **FREEMANS FLOWERS**



**BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS FOR ANY OCCASION**

**LOCAL & NATIONAL DELIVERIES**

**137 BRASENOSE ROAD DIDCOT  
OXON OX11 7BP**

**TEL: 01235 814479**  
[freemansflowers@btconnect.com](mailto:freemansflowers@btconnect.com)

## **CHARITY MARATHON WALK Thank You**

Dear Sir, Sutton Wick Lane

Congratulations for their dedication and success to Julie Dixon, Ros Wright and Maggie Weir (the Smiley Mileys) who walked 50 miles day and night in atrocious wet conditions. It was in support of Maggie's cancer caring charity at the Churchill hospital.

Yours sincerely, Gwen Price

## **OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP**

**Methodist Chapel** Sunday Service: 10.30 am  
High Street, Milton, (near the Post Office)  
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

### Drayton Table Tennis Club      John Gould

Are you looking for something to do in those long dark winter evenings? Do you enjoy occasional physical exercise? If the answer is yes then what you may be looking for is here on your doorstep.

Drayton Table Tennis Club offers an enjoyable alternative to sitting in front of the television and/or the PC. We offer a warm and friendly welcome to all ages from 12 – 90. Even if you've never picked up a bat, or used to play at school (?? years ago), or can play already, we cater for all abilities.

The Club is looking for new members to join up for the new season that will start in September. We hope to get some new members to play league table tennis but also welcome beginners who wish to learn the sport. Our members will be happy to advise and teach the basics. We have many **families** within the club as table tennis is a game that mums & dads can enjoy with their children.

If you are interested and would like more information please ring either 531328 or 205111. We have our **Pre-season Meeting** at the Red Lion at 7.30pm on **Monday 6th August** and we will be happy for you to come along and meet us.

Why not give it a try? You may enjoy it!

### Just Grass

Weekly / Fortnightly  
Lawn Mowing Service

Tel: 01235 553468  
Mobile: 07921 102100  
Email: [ju22@btinternet.com](mailto:ju22@btinternet.com)

*Julian Cook. 43 Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton*

### DRAYTON TWINNING      Stephen Fearnley

At the end of August we shall be hosting our French Twinners from Lesparre. A group of 26 visitors will be arriving on the evening of Thursday 23rd August and staying until early on Tuesday morning.

On Friday we shall visit Oxford where we plan to visit Oxford Unlocked and then the Botanical gardens. On Saturday we shall take them to look around the Roman baths at Bath. In the evening we shall be having an evening of live music at the Drayton Village Hall and we hope that others from the village will join us (see advertisement for the Boulevard Swing elsewhere).

On Sunday, weather permitting, we hope to walk around Wittenham Clumps and visit Dorchester. On Monday visitors will spend the day with their host families and we shall finish with a farewell dinner.

**We would welcome new members to the twinning group** – it's much more fun than you think! You may like to visit the web page at <http://www.oxnet.org.uk/> where you can search for Drayton and visit the Homepage.

Or please call 01235 531388/531347.

*Interiors*  
**& maintenance**

For all decorating, plastering,  
ceramic tiling, fencing, patios etc.

**Call 07910 090 517**  
**Or 01235 527973**  
**& ask for Tim**

### Drayton BOWLS CLUB      'Roll Up'

At the recent A.G.M. Of the bowls club over 40 members attended. Jane, club secretary, congratulated the two teams on their showing in the winter leagues, with 'The Hammers' winning Div 2, and 'The Rollers' finishing in second spot in Div 1.

Treasurer Cyril Carter presented a good picture on the financial front and said that there would be no increases in green fees or subscriptions, and that the membership stood at 59 which was very healthy; Cyril was elected for the next 2 years, as was Chairperson Doreen Jones, she stated that the new members had settled in well, and thanked the green stewards for their hard work, and also thought that it would be helpful if we could have one or two more members helping out in this department.

President Norman Hopkins said that it was time for some different people to run some of the Sunday competitions as it was being left to one or two people to do this, but that the club could be proud of what they had achieved during the season.

Summer league is well under way and both teams are getting mixed results, but look at this stage to be there or thereabouts in a couple of months time. The latest internal competition to be completed was 'The Beryl James Triples' and the two teams going through to finals day were T. Wright, O. Brown, M. Webster, who will play B.Jones, M. Bartlett, and D.Pimm; thirty members took part in the competition.

There was a fair bit of interest on the 'Community Day' with several people having a roll up, and if anyone is thinking it over, all they need to do is call in at one of the sessions, these are held Monday and Thursday 2 till 5 in the afternoon, and 7 till 10 on a Wednesday evening, everything is there for them to have a try and there will be no pressure, there are a few vacancies at this moment in time.

**NEED A NEW CAR??**

NOT SURE WHERE TO START??

Call Justin – *your personal car shopper*

Impartial advice and complete car buying assistance

01235 838618      [effortless@imcartial.co.uk](mailto:effortless@imcartial.co.uk)  
[www.imcartial.co.uk](http://www.imcartial.co.uk)

**Letters to the Editor**

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



## PARISH COUNCIL (July 2)

The most encouraging thing for the existing Parish Councillors this month was to be able to welcome yet another new co-opted member, Sarah Seaman. Now we are eight out of our permitted eleven members.

There are so many people in the village who are willing to give their time to organising events. Recently we have had the inauguration of the popular Youth Zone, the School/Church fete, the DAMASCUS villages' history weekend, and on 7th July the Community Day. There is so much to be involved in and yet there are still those who spend their time vandalising the playground. The bench has recently had its planks sawn off, and since the PC meeting the nearby lamp-post has been painted with what appears to be tar. All of this damage gives work to the village caretaker and costs the Parish Council a great deal of money – altogether dispiriting.

On a brighter note, some of the play equipment in the playground is looking rather drab and so our caretaker, Steve Sharpe, is going to give it a coat of paint along with the surrounding fence.

Because it has been such a wet summer there has been a spurt in growth and the Council has received one or two **complaints about overgrown hedges and trees. We would ask residents please to take a look at their boundary hedges and cut them back if they are beginning to intrude onto the public footpath.**

For those who enjoy walking Drayton's footpaths there is the good news that two new kissing gates have been installed on the path south of Eastway heading towards the golf course. This makes accessing the path easier especially for dog owners. It is hoped that by the end of the year two further gates will be in place and then all four difficult stiles will be eliminated. However, experience tells us that the OCC's timetable isn't always reliable!

Our County Councillor, Mike Badcock, told the Parish Council that in the near future he will be publishing dates of **surgeries at which residents can air their views on the traffic situation in Abingdon** since Abingdon Integrated Transport Scheme (ABITS) came into operation (Ed :- it's absolutely useless - next question?!).

The Council has been asked to consider putting a memorial in Sutton Wick to commemorate the aeroplane crash in 1959, which killed one resident and caused considerable damage. The Council feels that it is good to mark momentous events in the history of the village and the Parish Clerk is to write to the RAF to ask for their help with this

The next meeting will be on **Monday August 6th** at 7.45pm (Caudwell Day Centre). All are welcome, so if there are matters you would like to raise please come along. **Jenny Pooley**



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

### MEMORIALS

NEW MEMORIALS  
RESTORATIONS  
ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTIONS  
VASES  
GLASS CHIPPINGS

### GARDEN

TABLES  
BENCHES  
FOUNTAINS  
PLANTERS  
STATUARY

### KITCHEN WORKTOPS

### FLOOR TILES

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



## MARSHALL & GALPIN SOLICITORS



- Commercial & Residential Conveyancing
- Divorce, Mediation & Family Matters
- Medical Accidents & Injury Claims
- Probate, Wills & Trusts
- Company & Commercial matters
- Employment Law

Free initial interviews & fixed fees available

**Call Abingdon 01235 555345**

[www.marshallgalpin.com](http://www.marshallgalpin.com)

Tess M. Goldblatt BSc. Hons (Pod) HPC Registered MChS, SRCh

## PODIATRIST/CHIROPODIST

Specialising in all types of foot care

Home visiting practice

Evenings/Weekends/Emergencies

- Corns
- Callouses
- Ingrowing toe nails
- Diabetic foot checks

Over 14 years experience working in the NHS

**TEL: 01235 526505 MOBILE: 07976 974115**

## L. J. MULLINS PAINTING & DECORATING

Interior & Exterior, Domestic & Commercial

Local, reliable, professional, friendly service

Competitive prices

Contact Lee on **07815 288909**

or **01235 554032**



## A.L. VICKERY & SON

5, THE GREEN, DRAYTON, OX14 4JA

**01235 531497**

COOKSHOP – HOUSEWARES – DIY

ELECTRICAL TOOLS – GARDENING

LOCKSMITHS – KEYS CUT WHILE YOU WAIT

**OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY, 9 to 5.30**

CREDIT CARDS TAKEN

Park your car outside the Store

**NOW STOCKING HOOVER BAGS AND PRE-PACKED COAL**

## Drayton School Anita Hedditch

The end of the academic year is coming, with holidays looming, the children are excited. The holidays will provide recovery time to two teachers who have been involved in accidents resulting in broken bones. Best wishes to you both as you recover - you are being missed by your classes.

Abbie, Leo and Jennifer have represented the school at the Vale netball tournament. Abbie played in the team that came third and Leo and Jennifer played in the team that were runners-up. Congratulations to them all for being selected from over 100 children, and for playing so well.

The netball and junior football teams have their presentation afternoon on the 19th of July. Many thanks to the parents/coaches who have put so much time and effort into these two groups. Thank you also to Gary for coaching the school football team. We say goodbye and a big thank you to Dusty after a number of years coaching the junior footballers.

**A plea now. We need to replace both Gary and the junior football leaders. If you have experience in football and would like to help, please contact the school 01235 531316.**

The school now has a number of new picnic tables for use at lunchtimes. FODSA has helped towards their cost, this leads to another **thank you**. **Claire and Brian Soper** are standing down from Chair & Treasurer FODSA. Together they have been a superb team in fundraising and supporting the school in general. Thank you so much for your time and energy devoted to the school. →>>>

## Tonks Brothers

(Benjamin Tonks)



**Funeral Directors**

**01235 - 539444**

## THE LAVENDER ROOM

Beauty Clinic

Steventon, Oxon.

Provides perfect balance between maintenance and unhurried relaxation in a unique environment

Our philosophy is to calm, relax, refresh and make you feel special

**Facials – Massage – Hands & Feet – Waxing – Body bliss**

**01235 833600**

## “The Computer Lady”

**Internet, email, modem/broadband, security, virus/spyware/adware removal, networking, parts upgrades, training, PC basics**

*All types of computer problems and maintenance covered*

**Call Tracey Talbot  
on 01235 848415 or 07776 413602**

### NEED COMPUTER HELP?

#### Home, home office, small business

Repairs, Upgrades, Email/Internet connection issues, Anti-virus, Web-site design, Installing new hardware or software, Networks, Broadband.

Tuition: Internet, Email, Scanning and Photo-enhancing, Spreadsheet, Word Processing, or simply a basic introduction to your computer any issue that prevents you getting the best from your PC.

I can make it easy by offering tuition and guidance **IN YOUR HOME or BUSINESS** at a time to suit you.

**Martin Underwood 01235 847104 or 07748 632563**

## Benton & Bryan

Renovation & Maintenance Services

- 24 hour plumbing service
- Loft conversions, extensions, brickwork etc.
- Plastering, decorating, carpentry, electrics etc.
- Commercial or private
- All work to a high standard

**Tel: Steventon 01235 832 513; Mobile: 07 905 386 150**

**Email: [suzanne.benton@btopenworld.com](mailto:suzanne.benton@btopenworld.com)**

Year 6 leavers this year include Lauren, Chelsea, Georgia, Becky, Charley, Christopher, Max, Ben, Jordan, Euan, Cally, Leo, Conor, Toby and Charlie. We wish them well and hope they settle in to their new schools happily. I think everyone could remember their first day at secondary school!

The Albatross fundraising event went very well with £140 being raised. This equates to 14 bird scaring flags that can be attached to the long line fishing boats. Years 3 and 4 worked hard and have reaped their success.

Thank you to everyone for saving their Tesco and Sainsburys vouchers. The Tesco vouchers have been banked and will be used next year, the Sainsburys vouchers have been spent on sports equipment. Liz Malin has been very busy counting each and every voucher, amounting to some 27 thousand!!!

We are awaiting the last events - the year 6 versus teachers rounders match, and the leavers disco, and wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday.

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

## NEIL ALLEN

Windows & Doors

Quality Double Glazing Products

*Windows & Replacement Sealed Units  
Conservatories, Patio & French Doors*

**Competitive Prices 20 Years Experience**

*For a FREE no-obligation quotation call*

*Neil Allen on 01235 528446 Or 07770 456321*



## RESERVOIR NEWS

Public to have new opportunity for consultation on proposed reservoir - Extended consultation period made possible by amended legislation

As you may have heard, recent changes to government legislation have resulted in a **further period of consultation** on the proposed reservoir near Abingdon.

All water companies must now undertake full public consultations to create draft Water Resources Management Plans (WRMPs), which are submitted to the Government. The proposed reservoir near Abingdon, as a major part of our water resources plan, will become part of this broader consultation period. The move means that the period available for public consultation will be **extended by two years**, allowing more people to have their say on the proposals. It also means that any applications for work to begin will not be lodged until 2009 at the earliest. Public consultation is highly important to us and we will ensure that the comments you made during the first two stages of the consultation will be fed directly into the new consultation.

As agreed in February, a local panel will be established to ensure an ongoing dialogue with the community is maintained. The membership of the panel is being decided independently, to ensure a balanced representation of the local area and interests. Please visit our website [www.thameswater.co.uk/utmrd](http://www.thameswater.co.uk/utmrd) for further information or call us on 0845 9200 800. *Eleanor Taylor, Thames Water*

What is the process for producing Water Resource Management Plans?

The key stages are as follows:-

Draft plan published: March 2008

Consultation on draft plan: Spring – Summer 08

Public Hearing/Inquiry (if required): Autumn/Winter 08

Final plan published: July 2009

More information can be found on the Environment Agency's website: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

DRAYTON Twinning presents ... Live music!  
with  
**Brian Thompson's  
Boulevard Swing**

7:30 pm  
25<sup>th</sup> August 2007  
Drayton Village Hall  
Licensed bar  
Tickets: £6  
Contact: Bob Matthews (01235-531204)

THE FOLLOWING TEXT HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM Michael P Westwood , Wing Commander RAF (Retd), now living in Carterton, after seeing the recent Chronicle piece about the fateful air tragedy. →>>>>>>>

## MEMORIES STIRRED

As a former Beverley pilot at RAF Abingdon, I found Judy Henman's account of the Sutton Wick crash published in the June Chronicle (received via Mike Neil) most interesting. I was a 12 year old pupil at Abingdon School when the accident occurred on 5 March 1957 and I can still remember that day very clearly. It was Shrove Tuesday, and the weather was overcast with a cloud base of 300 feet and 1 mile visibility. I heard about the crash when I arrived home at lunchtime, as the scale of the disaster was becoming apparent to the outside world. The following day, most of the national newspapers published that iconic image of the Beverley's massive tail embedded in the roof of Wick Farm. One of the victims was the aircraft captain, Flight Lieutenant Gilbert, who lived with his family in East Hendred.

Out of youthful curiosity, I cycled to Drayton after school on Sat 9 March to visit the crash site. Sutton Wick Lane was very muddy, particularly the area around the village pond, and most of the large pieces of wreckage had been removed. The recovery work was still in progress, but a schoolboy in their midst was completely ignored by the salvage personnel. Amazingly, there was no police cordon in place as one would expect today.

In the weeks following the accident, questions were asked about the future of Abingdon airfield. Lord Lucas of Chilworth, who owned a house in Cothill on the airfield boundary, raised the issue in the House of Lords. He stated that the accident had created consternation and a terror stricken atmosphere in the local area and demanded that flying from the aerodrome should cease forthwith; in reply, Lord Mancroft fully sympathised with the very personal interest of Lord Lucas, but the Air Ministry had no intention of closing the airfield after the crash.

Drayton Parish Council discussed the dangers caused by aircraft flying from RAF Abingdon. The Council Chairman was Mr W Evans, whose bedroom had been wrecked by the tail of the Beverley. Mrs Binnington, who was killed when the aircraft demolished her bungalow in Sutton Wick Lane, had 3 sons and a daughter. One of her sons was an air cadet with No 2121 (Abingdon) ATC Squadron and when I joined in 1958, I met Cadet Sergeant Binnington. I have always thought that he demonstrated a tremendous strength of character and fortitude by continuing to wear an Air Force blue uniform after such a tragic personal loss.

Earlier this year, I wrote an article about the crash for the Beverley Association newsletter and in preparation I paid a visit to Sutton Wick on a pleasant spring afternoon. As I stood next to the pond, the tranquility of the scene was in stark contrast to the awful desolation I remember from 1957. I met 2 residents, Mrs Eato and Mrs Beryl Dawson, both of whom lived in Drayton at the time of the accident. They said that, even after 50 years, residents were still digging up pieces of wreckage in their gardens. Much to their regret, no monument or commemorative plaque has ever been erected in the village to the memory of the 17 unfortunate people who died in the crash.

After joining the RAF in 1962, I achieved an ambition when I was posted to a Beverley squadron and I flew the aircraft without incident for 3 enjoyable years. On reflection, there is no doubt that the Drayton crash left an indelible impression on me. Every year since 1957, on 5 March at exactly 11.02 am, whatever the circumstances, I have always found a moment to reflect silently on that tragic accident which brought so much death and destruction to Sutton Wick.

## MEMORIES FROM AFAR

This letter was received from former Drayton resident, Dorothy Davies – now living on the Isle of Man. Ref: the 'Living History' piece recently featured, and in particular, the copy of a photograph showing Miss Ethel Russell with a horse and cart outside Forge Cottage, High Street, Drayton.

**My husband, Harry Davies, and I, Dorothy Davies,** owned Forge Cottage where we spent many happy years and got very involved in village affairs. Mrs Daria Stimpson and I gathered a number of Drayton residents together and started the Drayton History Group. Daria and I looked at census records and traced the names of previous owners of Forge Cottage and the blacksmiths who worked at the forge.

I met Miss Russell several times, also Mrs Winter who ran the shop at the corner of Church Lane. Walnut Tree Cottage was occupied by Mrs Darter in the 1970s. As a boy, Norman Stimpson worked in the bottom of the sawpit at the sawmill and got covered by sawdust when the trees were being cut up.

The big fireplaces inside Forge Cottage were built of bricks made at the clay pits in Drayton. The bricks were soft and rosy red in colour. We were told not to wash these bricks with modern detergents which attack the mortar between the bricks.

In past times, all the cottages in the High Street were thatched. A maid cleaning the hearth at The Wheatsheaf pub accidentally started a fire which attacked the thatched roof. It was a very windy day and the fire spread rapidly down the street, setting many rooves alight including Forge Cottage. The fire was stopped just before it reached Ann Taylor's cottage which remains the only cottage in the High Street with a thatched roof (also unique because it is a 'cruck' cottage).

There were still people living in the old almshouses when Harry Davies' family moved into Forge Cottage. Mr and Mrs Falkener lived in the first house. It was just a one up and one down cottage with no heating, water, or sanitation. The old folk got water from the tap by the road and used the one toilet at the top end of the row of almshouses.

The Drayton History Group discovered that mosaic tiles discovered at 'Dropshort' at the bottom of the High Street suggested that it may have been the site of a Roman villa.

The fields on the Culham side of this road revealed broken swords, so that may have been the site of a battle between Cavaliers and Roundheads during the Civil War.

---

A couple of photos from the recent Community Day:-

## Learn to Drive with your Local Instructor

Fast friendly patient tuition  
Door to door home or work  
Evening and weekend appointments available  
Discount on pre-paid block booking

PHILIP PULLEN 07733 360230

Franchised Instructor for Safeway UK  
The Motoring School

As regards the Midwinter family, Henry Midwinter was the independent District Councillor for Steventon. His son, Phillip, set up a farm shop at the top of Steventon Hill. He used to drive up London every morning for his vegetable stock, while the Midwinter fruit farms provided the apples, pears and soft fruits sold in the shop.

Harry Poulton and friends were members of the Home Guard during World War II. A group were on duty at Culham Bridge one night when they spotted white flying objects in the sky. They immediately thought that they were paratroopers and a man on a bicycle was dispatched to Abingdon to warn the constabulary of an invasion in prospect. Imagine their chagrin when the 'enemy objects' turned out to be a flock of swans flying up river in the moonlight. Harry used to tell this story with a great laugh.

I will be following the findings of 'Living History' with great interest.  
*Dorothy Davies.*



Julie Mayhew-Archer, (Chair of VoWHDC) opening the event (+ with Richard Webber) and below the intrepid bike-riders!



## NOTICE BOARD

Apparently there's no Produce Show in Drayton this year, so in Sutton Courtenay we'd welcome entries from Drayton residents to our show in September, Saturday 22nd 2pm. Anyone who'd like more information is welcome to contact Daphne Sinclair on 848317. Entry forms and copies of the schedules will be available in Vickery's from late August.

## 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 Aug 7th, and Sept 4th. If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

## The Oxford Cat Clinic

Quality Veterinary Care for your Cat

Open 7 days a week by appointment

Friendly professional advice

Full Surgical and Medical Facilities

Well-cat clinics

78a West Way, Botley,  
Oxford OX2 9JU

Tel: 01865 243000

Email: [info@oxfordcatclinic.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordcatclinic.co.uk)

[www.oxfordcatclinic.co.uk](http://www.oxfordcatclinic.co.uk)



## DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

Well done to all the people who took part in the football competition, at the Drayton community day. It really was a fantastic event. And congratulations to the winning team (Drayton youth), all of the players did themselves proud and showed fantastic ability and team spirit. Thank you to all the people who helped with fixtures and photos etc. and a big thank you to all the Damascus staff who worked very hard throughout the day.

This day was a big success for young and old, many young people have said what a great day it was and they really enjoyed bonding with the adults in the community; a lot of young people came away with much more confidence and felt that they had more of an identity within our community. Just to stress we still are looking for more volunteers to help us run the project, if you feel you might be interested please contact me on my mobile: 07912142334. Gary Hibbins (youth worker) Damascus youth project.



*M & J Didcock*  
*Funeral Services*



A caring independent Family Funeral Service  
A Chapel of Rest in the heart of the countryside

17, Park Road  
Didcot, OX11 8QL  
Tel: (01235) 510292  
Fax: (01235) 512789

*Memorials &  
Funeral Plans  
arranged*

## Chronicle News

We welcome our new Co-ordinator, Gareth :-

My name is Gareth Davies and I am really pleased to have taken on the role of Chronicle Co-ordinator. I have lived in Church Lane for the last 20 years, the last 15 with my wife Kay and the last 7 with Bob our gentle giant of a ginger cat!

My initial years here were spent commuting into Oxford so there was little time to get involved in community life. However in more recent times I have set up my own business, as a freelance building surveyor, and now work from home. Taking on this role of co-ordinator seems like an ideal opportunity to meet new people and to get more involved in things that are going on in Drayton. I would like to thank the previous co-ordinator **Jean Barton** for all her help handing over the role and wish her well in her new job and new community (ministering to a new flock at St Mary's, Greenfield, near Oldham).

I look forward to bumping into many of you in due course and if anyone would like to be more involved with the Chronicle then please don't hesitate to get in touch either by phone on 01235 529510 or email [garethj.davies@virgin.net](mailto:garethj.davies@virgin.net).

## LOCAL CHILD MINDER SOUGHT

Reliable, local Drayton person needed to care for a 5yr old boy between 7.30am - 9am & 3pm - 6pm weekdays during term time; also 9am - 5pm during Summer holidays (other holiday periods not needed).

Preferably with child/children of their own who attend Drayton Primary School and willing to drop off / collect from school. Rate of pay by discussion.

Telephone:- 0784 0935332 OR 07903 619164

## M S Lally

### Gas Boiler Service

01235 848592

0796 7015 065

Servicing and Repairs

Systems Installed

Boiler changes

Systems Power Flushed

85 Milton Road, Sutton Courtenay

[martin.lally@tesco.net](mailto:martin.lally@tesco.net)



8134

## YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

**Parish (Clerk)**

Marie Sellwood (200042);

**District (VofWH)**

Richard Webber (534001);

**& Oxfordshire County**

Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

# DRAYTON DIARIES

## DIARY FOR AUGUST

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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

NB You may now check Hall bookings online :-

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

|      |    |        |                             |             |
|------|----|--------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Mon  | 6  | 7.45pm | Parish Council Meeting (p9) | Caudwell DC |
| Mon  | 13 | 5.00pm | CHRONICLE DEADLINE          | Vickery's   |
| Sat  | 18 |        | Private Party               |             |
| Sun  | 19 |        | Bowls                       |             |
| Thur | 23 | 7.30pm | Youth Zone                  |             |
| Sat  | 25 |        | Twining event               |             |

## Tranquil Beauty

Professional Beauty Therapy  
in a Relaxing Environment

Sara Warwick VTCT

Facials - Massage - Manicures - Pedicures

Waxing - Eye Treatments - Body Treatments

**\*Monthly Special Offers\***

To arrange an appointment call 07966 844409

**Gift Vouchers Available**

## HAIRDRESSING IN YOUR OWN HOME

DAYTIME: **07973 - 874788**

EVENINGS: **01235 - 835488**

*Lydia*  
LADIES, MENS, CHILDREN

■ GREAT STYLES ■ GREAT PRICES  
**special prices for O.A.P.s**

## Need a man & a van?



Reliable, professional & local. No job too small.

t: 01235 522134 A1manA1van@tiscali.co.uk m: 07932 691349

## PROFESSIONAL GARDEN SERVICES

Stephen R Matthews

133 Kynaston Road Didcot

Oxfordshire OX11 8HB

Tel: 01235 813 598 Mob: 07796 532356

All aspects of work undertaken, including:

- garden clearance and restoration
- fruit tree, shrub and rose pruning
- hedgecutting
- rockeries, turfing, trellis and fencing.

## 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  |
| 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)     |                        |
| 7.30 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 Day Centre |
| 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 |

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

## 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.

Printed by Dataprint, 11a West Way, Botley, Oxford.