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DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Dave Lee

All Saints Sutton Courtenay and St Peter's Drayton

Volume 31 No. 6

July 2008



Or contact us on 01235 524732

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **August 2008 Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 25th July 2008** from **Shirley Thomas, 48 Henleys Lane (531626),** who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Derek Pooley**, **11 Halls Close (559454)**. Contributions should be emailed to **editor@draytonchronicle.net** or placed in the Chronicle post box, (outside Vickery's shop on Drayton Green) or sent to Vickery's at 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JA. In any event they should arrive **no later than 5.15 pm on Monday**, **14th July 2008**

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

THE FOLLOWING THREE MONTHS		
Chronicle Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs needed by Monday:	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:
September	11 August 2008	22 August 2008
October	15 September 2008	26 September 2008
November	20 October 2008	31 October 2008

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

The following lists methods for contributors but also see our website at **www.draytonchronicle.net.**

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

1. The best is by by **email** to **editor@draytonchronicle.net** or directly to the editor of the month – see next para. Your contributions should either be embedded in your email as **plain text** or attached as a **rich-text** or **Microsoft Word** document! When using email make sure the editor acknowledges your contribution within 2 or 3 days.

If you wish to email the editor of the month directly, the editors' email addresses are **tony-holmes@ntlworld.com**.

 $david_r.lee@ntlworld.com \ and \ derek_pooley@talk21.com.$

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

3. As hand-written items. However, please write the names of people and places in capital letters. This saves a lot of mistakes.

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Double-size adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates. All requests MUST be accompanied by cash or a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and should arrive no later than the Friday BEFORE the main Chronicle Monday deadline given above

They should either be taken to the Chronicle post box, at

Vickery's Hardware Store on Drayton Green, or sent to The Advertising Manager, The Drayton Chronicle, c/o Vickery's Hardware Store, 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JA or emailed to **advertising@draytonchronicle.net**.

To discuss requirements phone **Stephen Fearnley**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, on 531347 or email:- **advertising@draytonchronicle.net**.

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE JUNE LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	1791	Mrs Fincham, 29, Lockway	Jenny Pooley
£20	1019	B. Bell, 1, Mill Paddock, Abingdon	Mary Alexander
£15	2352	6, Newman Lane	Jean Oliver
£10	2497	J Brown, 14, Lesparre Close	Steve Penney
£10	1487	M. Collett, 2, Binning Close	Judith Dunster
£10	2026	Ms. Robertson, 72, Whitehorns Way	Daphne Barrand
£10	0733	Mrs Bax, Henleys Lane	Angela Painton
£10	1415	Mrs Evans, 42, Steventon Road	Jackie Walker
£10	2005	Mr Alex Brooks, 66, Whitehorns Way	Daphne Barrand
£10	0747	Mrs Deabill, Henleys Lane	Angela Painton
The winning tickets were drawn by staff at Vickery's Shop from the 2168 tickets sold			



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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor.

Through the pages of the Chronicle, I would like to publicly express my very grateful thanks to Simon Faulkner and his two mates who, on hearing my cry for help after I had fallen in my back garden, came to my aid, helping me up and calling for an ambulance.

It restores ones faith in human nature, knowing that there are people around willing to help us oldies, like Simon and his two mates, in spite of what the media tell us about young people today.

There are still a lot of good people about.

Thank you Simon and	mates.
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Dear Editor,

I would like to pass on my thanks and gratitude to George Lester. George found my son's mobile phone on the way to school and not only did he contact us to let us know before we had missed it, but returned it to our door! George is a great example of how the young people of the village do not live up to the bad reputation they sometimes have.

TT1 1		C
Thank	you	George.

Naomi Broomfield

Pansy Smith

Dear Editor.

We would like to thank all family and friends for their cards, messages of sympathy and donations for St Peter's Church, following the recent sad loss of our Mother, Norah Winter.

Also for the great kindness shown by her many friends in the village and elsewhere, who regularly visited her during her life, following the death of her husband and our Father, Bob.

We would particularly like to thank Revd Sister Josie Midwinter and Jack Jarvis for the lovely services at the Church and afterwards Barry and Richard Winter and families at the crematorium.

Dear Editor.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to the Drayton Fire Disaster Fund for their kindness and support.

The money has now been distributed to the victims who have expressed their appreciation. Daphne Samworth



Dear Editor,

I would like to thank all the people who supported the Pace sale in the Caudwell Day Centre on Friday 13th June. It was a tremendous success and we made £310.00. I will gift aid this and then it will be almost £400.00. PACE stands for Positive Achievement through Conductive Education.

During the morning, some of us went to The Pace Centre's open day. There are 82 children and mostly they have one to one support. Most of the children have cerebral palsy; some are more severely handicapped than others. They have a baby class for children as young as 3 months old. As they develop, they learn to concentrate and control their stiff twisted limbs and walk. They do things for themselves and have lots of encouragement, laughter and support if they need it and time to complete tasks. They lose all frustration and try hard. It brings tears to your eyes to see how they develop over the years. I would like to thank Jill, Denise, Dean and Ryan Harvey, Ann Gibson, Frances North and Judith Dunster for their help and donations at the sale. I'd also like to thank others who donated and bought things at the sale and to Sheila Cook who let us use the hall.

There is another PACE open day in October which I hope some of you can attend. You will see a school of happy, determined, enabled children. Judy and Derek Henman

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OLM in training & Choir		
	Max Deels Daves	525284

	Mrs Rosie Bruce525284
Churchwardens	Mrs Sue Harris848361
	Mrs Val Cross535183
Organist	Mr Adrian Thompson01865 714801

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion (CW Traditional) Sung Eucharist (CW), except 2nd Sunday when there is a non-Eucharistic Family Service.
Mon - Fri	8.15 am	Morning Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel
Thurs	9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Wednesday10.30 am Pebbles (Term Time only)Church RoomMonday7.45 pmBell Ringing PracticeBell TowerEvery Second Friday6.30 pmChoir PracticeChurch Room

CALENDAR FOR JULY

Tues 1st July3.00 pmFirst Tuesday ConnectionsChurch RoomSat 5th July10.00 am-11.00 amSale of Fair Trade goodsChurchSun 6th July11.15 am-11:45 amSale of Fair Trade goodsChurch

CHURCH REGISTER Baptism

1st June	Mia Alice Biddle
1 st Julie	Mia Alice Diddle
15th June	Gillian Purrott
27th May	Norah Ruth Winter
6th June	Vera Head
23rd May	Patricia Mary Kelly
	27th May 6th June

YOU STAY - WE PRAY, JULY

29th June to 12th July	Steventon Road; Eastway;
	Eastway MHP
13th to 19th July	Church Lane; Henley's Lane;
	Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane.
20th July to 2nd August	Abingdon Road; Oday Hill;
	Binning Close, Hayward Road.

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LETTER FROM REVD JOSIE MIDWINTER

Dear Friends

In July, the Olympic Games will be held in Beijing. The original Games began in the valley of Olympia in southern Greece about 3000 years ago. At the beginning, there was only one race of about 200 yards, but later the pentathlon was added and later still a chariot race. The idea of athletic games fitted well with Greek culture as they believed the human ideal was embodied in philosophical debate and physical prowess. To win the argument and win the race added up to the perfect figure of manhood. The Romans, who took over from the Greek empire, admired their culture and also adopted the idea of physical fitness as portrayed by the athlete. So, when we read the New Testament it is not surprising to see St Paul using the image of an athlete to illustrate his idea of Christian discipleship.

To train to Olympic standard a person needs to be very dedicated and disciplined. Hours of physical training, a carefully balanced diet and a demanding schedule of training are required. Yet many people are willing to do just that with a hope of winning a gold medal. The point that Paul is making is that being a Christian to the standard that Jesus set is equally demanding. Finding time to read and study the bible. Devoting time to prayer and worship. Being willing to go the extra mile to help others takes time. However Paul does not see this as a drudgery, but as a thrilling race which has all the drama of the Olympic stadium. The Christian does not enter the race weighed down with heavy duty or negative rules, but with all the freedom of God's love as shown by Jesus. But he is saying that you cannot expect to achieve a result if you don't put in the dedication and effort required.

The ancient athlete ran to receive a garland of olive leaves and the modern athlete to receive a gold medal. The Christian however runs to receive the 'crown' of eternal life. In an Olympic race only one person can win - but in the Christian race everyone who competes is eligible to win eternal life.

Go for Gold is the title of this year's Summer Holiday Club for children (see advert elsewhere in the Chronicle for details). As you can imagine it is based on the Olympic Games and has its usual range of songs, drama, games and fun. It will be held on 24th and 25th July and we will be joining with All Saints Sutton Courtenay to organise the event. There are only 64 places so early booking is essential.

Paul's illustration of the athlete is as fresh today as it was 2000 years ago:

... run with perseverance the race set before us

... fixing our eyes on Jesus

Ì

... to win the crown of life.

Josie Midwinter

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REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

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

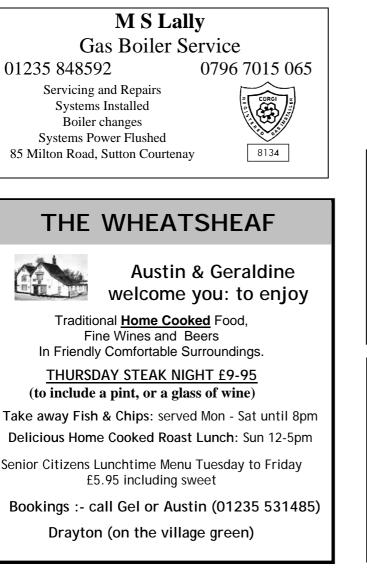
EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of 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 1st July and 5th August. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Welcome to a new baby boy at 19, Whitehorns Way, a brother for Max and Jude.



ALL AROUND

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

The branch is planning a Summer Event involving families in the grounds of the Lantern Restaurant on the afternoon of Saturday 15 August so hope you will support this event and make it a successful one.

The President and Chairman will be manning the Mini Marquee at the Church Fete on Saturday 5 July – see you there.

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

W.I.

Brenda Malin

We had a wonderful speaker this damp June evening. Mrs Foster, despite a broken arm, but with a very willing husband/driver/projectionist - 'good all round man' - gave a very entertaining and informative talk on the history of Women Artists and Women as Portrayed in Art.

We also had a report from our Representative, who along with nearly six thousand other ladies, made her way to Liverpool to attend the A.G.M. of the Women's Institute. Two resolutions were debated at the meeting, one to 'Petition Against the Imprisonment of the Mentally ill'. This motion was passed unanimously. The other motion to 'Ban Bottom Trawling' was turned down by a very narrow margin, after a strong case against the the motion, was put forward by a representative of the Fisherman. After all this debating the meeting was entertained by the very talented Sandy Toksviand and rounded off with a roof raising rendering of Jerusalem. N.B. Liverpool City was highly praised and recommended as a place to 'Must Visit'

The A.G.M. highlights what is often forgotten - that the W.I. is, and has always been, a very progressive organisation. Since 1915, long before women were burning their bras, the W.I. was standing up and making its voice heard on many issues, see above. Today, occasionally, in a great deal less than their BRAS, but not, I hasten to add, in Drayton.



The Motoring School

MORE ALL AROUND

DRAYTON TABLE TENNIS CLUB John Gould

The Club AGM took place on 19th May at the Red Lion. Our thanks to Glenn & Janet for use of the Pool Room and the excellent buffet they provided.

Club Chairman Tony Krason welcomed our members both old & new and thanked the officers and team captains for their efforts last season.

The team captains each gave a report of the season's performance. Congratulations were given to the E team on finishing 2nd in Division 4 and gaining promotion.

The Officers were all re-elected to their posts without opposition. Our Annual Weymouth Trip will take place on Sunday 13th July. We are hoping for a good turnout of club members and anyone wishing to go should contact either John Gould or Tony Krason.

David Hudson club Treasurer proposed that the fees will remain unaltered next season and this was agreed when put to a vote.

It was agreed that we would formalise the supervision of our junior members next season. We now have more youngsters attending our Monday practice so this will ensure they get an organised evening and some coaching. We also agreed to purchase some new club bats for those beginners. This will replace the old ones that are somewhat damaged and will ensure that new players can learn to play with decent equipment.

The Pre-season Meeting will be on Monday 28th July at the Red Lion starting 7.30 pm. We will select our teams for next season at that meeting so new players will be welcome to attend.

Please ring 531328 or 205111 for details.

Have a good summer.

DRAYTON TWINNING

Michael Bell

A DRAYTON TWINNING party are visiting Lesparre from 14th to 19th August.

Anyone interested in knowing more can contact me on 01235 - 531388. We will be holding an "open meeting" in The Wheatsheaf on Tuesday 8th July - why not join us? Find out more from members at the Community Day.

DRAYTON WIVES

Pam Lacey

Our May meeting was well attended when Dr Katherine Bradley came to talk to us about early Women Travellers and Explorers. Dr Bradley first spoke about Celia Fiennes, ancestor of Sir Ranulph, who rode around England on horseback totally unaccompanied in 1690.

Mary Kingsley, niece of Water Babies author Charles Kingsley, was another intrepid lady, exploring in 1890 African swamps by canoe, always holding her umbrella aloft.

Gertrude Bell, an explorer of great note was the first woman to gain a First Class Honours in History at Oxford, also becoming the first Europen woman to travel Arabia on her own. She founded the Baghdad Museum in 1900.

After the talk, Dr Bradley asked if any ladies present had experienced any adventures whilst travelling. Our own Drayton Vicar, Josie Midwinter spoke about her experiences in Uganda during her eight years of Ministry there. As Rebel troops roamed the country there was always the risk of being stopped by them. Very scary times indeed!!

Dates for your Diary in JULY

Mon 14thCOFFEEGwen Price, 39A Sutton Wick LaneMon 21stWHISTDoreen Eato, Caudwell D.C.Wed 30thOUTINGVisit to Waterperry Gardens.

Please meet in the Village Hall Car Park at 1.15pm. Anybody else wishing to go, please contact Ann Hutchins.

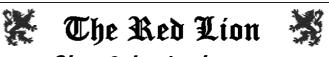
Drayton Wives is an organisation open to all (whether or not you are a wife!) so please come along and join us when you will be given a very warm welcome. You can contact me on:

01235 531332 or email: pam.lacey@tiscali.uk

Additional Report by Eve Sharp, Chair, Drayton Wives

As part of our charitable giving, Drayton Wives decided to make a donation to Abingdon Stroke Club, so Ann Hutchins, Jean Hagar and I paid a visit to the club at Trinity Hall. We received a very warm welcome from Barbara Lanharn, her team of helpers, recovering patients and their carers. It was a most happy gathering of about twenty people, everyone was so cheery and friendly and there was much laughter. Barbara has been associated with the club from its beginning in 1987 and is now its coordinator. The meetings are fortnightly 2-4pm on Mondays, there are occasional speakers, but mostly members enjoy playing board games, doing jigsaw puzzles and chatting (there was a lot of that !) A splendid tea was served - a variety of sandwiches and homemade cakes, and we heard that later this month the whole club will have an outing to The Ferryman for lunch. A trip on a barge is also on offer on another occasion.

Barbara told us that the club is very happy to welcome new members and would be delighted to receive offers of help with running the club or transporting its members to Trinity Hall. Her telephone number is 01865 407834. Do give her a ring if you would like more information or know of anyone who is recovering from a stroke and would benefit from this excellent club.



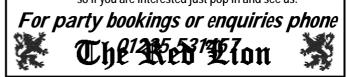
Glenn & Janet welcome you 11:30am - 11:00pm Monday to Saturday

12:00 noon – 10:30pm Sunday

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YET MORE ALL AROUND

BOWLS CLUB

Roll Up

Over 30 members attended the Annual General Meeting. Main points from the meeting were as follows, Chairperson Doreen Jones stated that the club had achieved many things over the twenty years, but that she was concerned about the future with regard to the membership, we don't seem to be able to attract new members. She thanked all the people who had worked hard over the year and said the club was still in fine shape for the immediate future.

Jane Pimm, who was re-elected Secretary for the next two years congratulated 'The Rollers' on finishing 3rd and 'The Hammers' in mid table in league one after getting promotion last year, and 'The Wasps' also in mid table in Division Two. She also thanked all those who had helped to make it yet another successful year and a big thank you to Carol Smith who helped out with the minutes at meetings, also thanks to Doreen and Carol for making the 'Friendly Fours' another great day. She read a letter she had received from Wallingford congratulating the club and thanking everyone who had made it such a nice day.

Treasurer Cyril Carter stated that the club was financially very sound, that there would be no need for any changes to green fees or subs this year, and that the membership was standing at 52, reminding us that subs for 2008/9 will be due by the end of July.

Norman Hopkins was re-elected president for the next two years, and in his address stated that he would like to see a few more members getting involved with the organizing of internal competitions, and had a surprise for Bryn, by announcing the committee had agreed to make him a life member for all his hard work over many years.

The dinner dance at the Golf Club was a great success with 47 members and friends attending, and many thanks to Olive for making the birthday cake to help celebrate the 20th birthday.

The Ladies vs. Gents match ended with another win by the gents, 24 members taking part. The latest internal competition to be completed is 'The Rose Bowl' Monday league, with John Goodacre, Josie Carter, and Marian Webster going through to finals day where they will take on the Wednesday winners. The next internal competition will be 'The Henry Bunce' handicap pairs, this will be taking place on the 6th of July. If anyone would like to get involved with the club, sessions are afternoons Mondays and Thursdays 2 till 5 and Wednesdays evening 7 till 10, a warm welcome awaits you.

Janet Manning HOMOEOPATH

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SCHOOL REPORT

Naomi Broomfield

The weather was near perfect for the Summer Fair held on Saturday 7th June and was a great success and raised over £2000; this has been split between the school and St Peter's church. It was great to see such a big crowd across all generations. The maypole dancing was lovely to watch and there were more activities and displays this year which I know the children enjoyed participating in. Well done to Pauline who faced her fears and held a very large tarantula as she had been sponsored the most. A HUGE thank you to all the people who put in so much work from helping to organise the event, setting everything up, running the stalls and clearing up afterwards, it was great to see so many people giving up their time.

Both teams that represented Drayton School in the recent netball tournament did the school proud especially as this was the first tournament for many of the players in the B team and the A team came second over all. WELL DONE!

As you will probably have noticed lots of year 5 and 6 children are on their bikes working hard as the Cycling proficiency training is underway. Thank you to Jo Allott and her helpers for helping the children learn these essential skills.

Pauline Higgs' leaving do is on July 17th. Please call Anita on 526444 or Maggie on 526547 for further information or to volunteer to help with the preparations. Please let us know if you can come and spread the word to others that you are still in contact with but have moved from the village. We are having a collection for Pauline's leaving present, if you would like to donate some money please hand it into the school office in a clearly marked envelope or alternatively there is a box in Vickery's store.

Dates for your diary:

Pauline Higgs leaving do Thursday 17th July

BROWNIES

Mary Thompson

First Drayton Brownies –changes ahead !

Can you help us? We need leaders!

Leavers disco Friday 18th July

Do you enjoy working with children? Were you once a Brownie or a Guide? Do you enjoy craft, games, fun, and outdoor activities? Are the values of Guiding, of home, family and community, and helping other people, of importance to you? Do you have a couple of hours a week to spare?

If the answer to any of these is yes, perhaps you would like to consider volunteering to help us as a helper or leader?

There have been Brownies and Guides in Drayton for over 50 years and generations of girls and young women have been members of this worldwide movement.

Girls who are Brownies make friends from different schools and villages; learn skills they don't learn at school; go on adventures such as camps and trips; gain confidence; enjoy teamwork and develop personally.

Challenges now lie ahead for us and we need your help!

I have run the Pack for some years now and I will be retiring as Brown Owl at the end of next summer 2009. I would like to find a new leader as soon as possible so that we have plenty of time to change over. It is a great way to be involved in the community here!

Another challenge for us is to see if we can open a Guide Company in Drayton – at present girls go from Brownies in Drayton to join Guides in Sutton Courtenay. This group is nearing capacity and it would be good to have Guides in Drayton again -how about getting involved? It is great fun and there is lots of support available. (There is a well supported training scheme for Guiders. www.girlguiding.co.uk for more details)

Do contact me on:

01235 823077, or email: nickandmaryt@hotmail.com

EVEN MORE ALL AROUND

PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Debbie Bargus

We will be looking at all things to do with holidays this term. We have been having fun packing suitcases and unpacking them!!!! We are also managing to go outside quite a lot with the nice weather. The children very patiently line up to have sun cream applied, then collect their hats and head off into the garden. We have now received our parcel from Tesco Sports for schools, we ordered several things for the children to use in the garden including child friendly garden tools, gloves and more. Thank you once again to all who donated the vouchers, they make a real difference to Preschool.

The children who will be moving on to BIG school in September have been having visits across to school. This helps to familiarise them with the layout, classrooms and teachers in preparation for the move ahead.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Banardos Toddle on 17th June, hopefully you all enjoyed yourselves as well as raising money for a good cause. Also thank you to Liz Malin for running the Preschool stall at the School Fete, raising much needed funds to help Preschool.

We finish for the summer break on Friday 18th July. The morning session is as normal, there is no lunch club or afternoon session. We will be having a mini sports day from 12 noon, all welcome to take part and feel free to bring a picnic.

There is an easy way to help our fundraising, if you order goods via the internet, you can register at 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.

DATES: Autumn term begins on Wed. 3rd September 2008.

TODDLERS

Julie Laws

Congratulations to Becki and James on the safe arrival of their baby daughter and Oliver's baby sister, Chloe Booker. Chloe was born on Sunday 15th June, weighing 7lb 7.5oz. A Father's Day to remember! We can't wait to meet you Chloe and no doubt Oliver will tell you all about Toddlers. Lots of love to you all.

Some of the children will be taking part in a sponsored toddle, for Barnardos, at Child Beale Park on Tuesday 17th June. Will let you know how the children got on in the next issue.

Thank you to those who supported the Toddler Disco. It would have been great if more had attended - but we did appreciate the hard work of everyone who advertised the event. We have some budding artists living in Drayton!

Thank you also to the parents/carers who have volunteered to get the hall ready for Toddlers, and to provide craft activities. We do intend to run the group through the summer holidays, as long as there are people who will help in this way.

Toddlers is open every Thursday from 9.30am until 11.30am. If you have any queries, then please contact Cass on 07849314916 or Tracey on 07732533057.

Mrs Suzy Willis MCSP SRP AACP CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPIST Old Lodge, Henleys Lane Drayton, OX14 4HU Tel 01235 531269

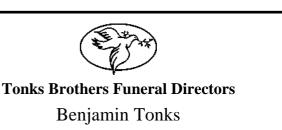
Please ring for an appointment

DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

Rehearsals for our comedy night, to be held in late September, are about to begin. BLACK COMEDY by PETER SHAFFER, is a farce set in a London flat during an electricity blackout which provides many hilarious moments. On its New York debut Michael Crawford and Lynn Redgrave headed the cast list. Although we can't promise them on stage (!) we can deliver a great performance by our local talented Players, so look out for full booking details which will be given shortly.

Also keep a look out for news about auditions for the February 2009 musical production Fiddler on the Roof. As always, we warmly welcome new talent and if you would like to find out more, please give Peter Jackson a call (01235 531472), or contact any member of Drayton Players. This is a very exciting project, requiring a large and diverse cast and we encourage you to come along and be part of it.



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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT Richard Webber

Future Needs Survey

Drayton is classed as one of the Vale's 'Large Villages' by the Planning department. This gives us some benefits such as a larger allocation of funding than smaller villages, but it also gives us some additional responsibilities. The Government has decreed that the Vale (along with all Districts in the South of England) must accept and plan for extra housing to cope with the reducing average household size and increasing life expectancy. Some of us might like to challenge the Government's figures and assumptions, but we are legally obliged to do what they say in terms of planning. As a 'Large Village', Drayton must plan for its share of the pain. If we don't, we run the risk of extra building being imposed on us without the infrastructure needed to support it.

For its size, Drayton already suffers from woefully inadequate sports and recreational space for people of all ages. With the prospect of additional housing, we are in a strong position to be demanding more space and facilities. Our case will be all the stronger if those of us arguing the case can demonstrate that we are truly representing what we all want. I have asked Vale Officers to give us advice on what questions we should ask in order to get meaningful answers. When we have prepared our questionnaire, a team of us will knock on every door in the village to ask you to complete it. Please understand that because the results may affect everyone in the village for years to come, and may be used to get the funds required for developments, we do want *every* household to complete a questionnaire – even if you don't think we need extra space/amenities – in other words, please be nice to whoever calls on you! Thank you.

Making Hay

Well, the sun has certainly been shining a bit over recent weeks and mixed in with plenty of rain, the plants in our gardens and the grass around the village have all been enjoying themselves. I have had a number of calls/emails concerned about areas of incredibly long grass all around Drayton. I should point out that there are also many areas that have been well-cut - for which we have all to thank the PC and our Village Caretaker Ron Sharpe and Dad. The uncut areas (which extend well beyond Drayton) are all the responsibility of OCC, who are clearly at full stretch to cope with the conditions. Please join me in letting them know that it is getting to the stage that if the grass isn't cut soon, we may have to issue machetes to enable us to get out of Drayton!

Keeping Calm

About the only thing in this job that makes me really feel like losing my temper, is when I am asked to cope with accusations of political corruption. I have today just written a cheque for £50 to my own council to pay a parking fine obtained when my VWHDC permit fell off my windscreen during a 3 hour meeting on Abingdon's Traffic problems. Having gone through all the expected stages of first 'fury', then 'how I would refuse to pay', then 'considering the abusive letter I would write to the Parking department' then the 'cringing letter I would write to the Council Chiefs asking for mercy', I finally arrived at the following solution:

I have sent my cheque in with a warm note of congratulation to the parking department on their vigilance explaining how essential it was to hold the line on this issue, that no special favours should be extended to me that would not be extended to anyone else and that I would not accept any favours, even if they were extended.

I am now feeling particularly self-righteous and ready to take on the next person to accuse me of accepting back-handers, bribes or unreasonable expenses. I am quite certain that the vast majority of my colleagues in local government (of whatever party) would applaud the action I have taken. Westminster and Brussels Please Note. \Rightarrow

Community Day

This promises to be the most busy and (we hope) most enjoyable of any of our Community Days, with an emphasis on participation. We hope to see you (and your dog) at the Village Hall on the afternoon of Saturday July 5th.

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT JENNIFER POOLEY

Meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2008

As a result of Daniel Scharf's 'affordable housing' article on the front page of the last Drayton Chronicle two Drayton residents came to the meeting to voice need and ideas. It was decided that, to assess the amount of interest in provision of more such housing, every household in the village will receive a questionnaire in the coming weeks. The process for discovering need and then identifying available potential land is a complicated and, therefore, quite a lengthy one. However, if it appears that there is sufficient need and enough volunteers to get involved then the Parish Council would support the operation.

Two Community Police Support Officers, Christopher Cochrane and Emma Chavagnon also attended the meeting. They are temporarily Drayton's police presence until two new officers take over from them shortly. In the past our CPSOs have come and gone rather swiftly but we were assured that it is likely that the new appointees will remain for a year or so. One thing we learned from them was that some of the low flying helicopters that bother some residents as they come directly over Drayton are in fact police helicopters, so it is not always the military to blame.

The obligation that the Council has to ensure safety of headstones in the burial ground is an ongoing matter for discussion. Melanie Parker (Leisure & General Purposes Chair) has nobly counted over 270 stones in the burial ground and churchyards that need to be topple tested and the Council is to negotiate with St. Peter's Church to try to work together on what will be a fairly costly business.

An issue that is exercising the Council is that of notices and advertisements which appear in the village from time to time. The Vale District Council is taking a tough line and insists on removing unauthorised notices even when they are well presented and very relevant to local activities. Richard Webber, our District and Parish Councillor is working to see whether we can agree with the VWHDC and the OCC a policy for Drayton which is monitored by the Parish Council, so that advertisements for things like the village choir, school/church fete, Community Day etc. can be advertised without the risk of incurring fines and notices being removed by the VWHDC.

This is the time of year when we are invited to enter the Calor Gas Village of the Year competition. We did well last year but have decided to give it a miss this year on the grounds that there are things the Council would like to achieve before we enter again. Since last year we have produced the village information leaflet, made progress with environmental policies (some readers will already be participating in Green Cred), and now we would like to set up a village website as well. This is being investigated and if there is any reader who has experience of creating such websites please contact Daniel Scharf, the PC chairman, or come along to the next meeting. There are other things we should like to accomplish such as improved play facilities, a tree planting scheme, more effective care of village notice boards. If you have ideas of how you would like Drayton to become an even nicer village to live in than it already is then come to the PC meetings with your ideas, and even better, with offers to help put them into practice.

The next PC meeting is on Monday 7th July at 7.30pm in the Caudwell Day centre.

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.

WESTMINSTER LETTER Ed Vaizey

On national issues, as so many people wrote to me with their concerns about the **Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill**, I thought I should let you know how I voted on some of the main issues, and why.

Hybrid Embryos - In my view, much of the debate around this issue was misleading. Most hybrids involve the animal part acting as a "vessel" for human cells, and the need has come about because of the shortage of human eggs available for research. There is no mixing of animal and human genetic material. However, I did have concerns about "true hybrids", where there does appear to be some mixing of material, because an animal egg being fertilised by a human sperm, and vice versa. Accordingly, I voted for a Conservative amendment that would have prohibited "true hybrids", but this was defeated.

Saviour Siblings - I do not oppose saviour siblings. Saviour siblings are not children created to order so that their body parts can be harvested. It is simply the case that where a mother is receiving IVF, she will be able to choose the embryo who most closely matches her existing child in terms of tissue. This already happens in other countries in any event, so it is right that the practice is properly regulated here. I therefore supported the Government on this issue.

Need for a Father - At present, a doctor assessing anyone seeking IVF is required to consider the "need for a father". The Bill proposed changing this to the "need for supportive parenting". I supported the change for many reasons. First, I do not think single mothers or lesbian couples should be denied such treatment. Knowing both examples very well, they can make very good parents, and do not take the decision to have a child lightly. Second, the "need for a father" arguments did not stand up to scrutiny. It was argued that the provision would not discriminate as lesbians already receive treatment, and it was there simply to send a signal. In my view, legislation should not be used to send signals, but to achieve specific aims. To use it for the former purpose is to encourage bad law-making.

Abortion - I am not anti-abortion, and would not vote to make it illegal. It is clear however, that our abortion limit is too high. Babies do survive at 23 weeks (including a constituent of mine) and some at 22 weeks. I am confident many will survive at 20 weeks in a few years. I therefore voted to lower the abortion rate to 20 weeks, and to 22 weeks, but both amendments were defeated.

Thank you for allowing me to set out my views. The debates can be seen in Hansard, on the website www.parliament.uk (just click on House of Commons, then Hansard, and look for the relevant dates, 19 and 20 May) or I may be able to send you hard copies of the debates if you so desire. You can contact me at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, on 0207 219 6350 or at vaizeye@parliament.uk, my website, www.vaizey.com

Up Coming Surgeries

11 July 2008	Wallingford, Town Hall, 5.30pm
25 July 2008	Faringdon, Corn Exchange, 5:30pm



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NOTICE BOARD

Norah Winter 23rd May 1912 – 16th May 2008

Norah was born in Ashbrook, Gloucestershire and her family moved to a small cottage in Gravel Lane Drayton in October 1924. Norah's father worked for Mr. Caudwell at The Grange as the groom. Later, they moved to a new house, 'Groom's Cottage' at 9 Gravel Lane, next door to the Winter family at Bradfields.

Norah left Drayton school in 1926 when she was 14 years old, and started work as a cook where she stayed until 1933 when aged 21, she took a new job as a nanny in Abingdon.

In December 1937 she married Bob Winter, who lived next door. They were married in Drayton Church. Bob's father had died when Bob was only 22 and he took over the family building business. Bob built their new home together with help from Norah and her sister Edie, and they moved in as soon as they were married.

During the war years, evacuees and pilots came to stay with Norah and Bob, and she continued this hospitality towards various friends and relatives until well into the 1950's.

Norah loved her garden, and it was enjoyed and admired by many who walked along Gravel Lane. She spent hours in her greenhouse potting on numerous cuttings and once grown, she took great pleasure in giving them away to neighbours family and friends.

Norah also supported Bob and the family building business as bookkeeper and secretary, and then in later years she ran their shop, now known as Vickerys.

When Bob and Norah retired, they had the opportunity to travel, visiting Canada, Holland, Finland and Norway as well as touring Europe by coach. They also enjoyed a cross Atlantic cruise to New York on the Liner QE2. Norah had a sense of adventure which didn't diminish as time went by. She enjoyed balloon and helicopter flights at 90 years of age.

Norah had many talents and created beautiful rugs, scarves etc from knitting and crocheting taking great pleasure in donating them to various charities. She enjoyed making preserves, cakes and pies and even when she was in her nineties, she baked cakes for the local Church group.

Even though hard of hearing, she was very knowledgeable on sporting matters and enjoyed watching a variety of sports on her television. She also liked to participate and used to belong to the Drayton Bowls Club and in recent years, she won the Aunt Sally competition at the Drayton Church Fete.

She exchanged in excess of 140 Christmas cards every year, keeping in touch with her friends and relatives from all corners of the world who she valued greatly.

Norah was an independent lady with a sharp mind and a quick wit, and she remained active until she became ill and was admitted to hospital in April 2008. She was a wonderful, kind Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother who was loved by many and will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

The issue of the Reservoir has now reached a critical stage. The Thames Water proposals, which come in a 900 page report, have been compiled to justify their stated requirement for the reservoir, and their exhibitions have been held round the villages. Thames Water's arguments have been made with the exclusion of any satisfactory detailed consideration of either re-use of waste water in London (which uses treatment for re-use to supply less than 1% of its total demand), or water transfer which has long been considered a sensible source of additional supply. Both these attractive and much cheaper options have been ruled out in the report despite the fact that both are quicker to implement, far less expensive, more water efficient and more sustainable. The Thames Water plan is hugely beneficial to this monopoly water company, but is not in the best interests of customers who will have to fund the project.

GARD has now received the report it commissioned from Chris Binnie, an acknowledged and respected expert water resources consultant. This punches great holes in Thames Water's arguments and identifies incorrect figures. GARD has sent a summary of Chris Binnie's long and detailed technical report to local councillors and MPs who will now, for the first time, have an independent technical assessment of the Thames Water proposals, highlighting the severe limitations and inaccuracies in their document. The Environment Agency, OFWAT and the Consumer Council for Water have been kept informed.

The reservoir is NOT needed for at least 25 years, and probably not at all. It is the wrong choice for customers. There are better cheaper schemes. A decision on such a huge and probably unnecessary project must be based on robust and accurate arguments and therefore should be delayed until there is clear evidence of the future need with a full analysis of alternatives, which Thames Water have failed to provide. A decision is in any case not needed for at least 10 years,

GARD has only addressed the need and the alternatives. The impact on us locally, and the environment, are less likely to affect a decision by DEFRA but are clearly also of great concern. The public can comment to DEFRA by 31 Aug on any aspects and we hope many people will do so. N H Thompson.

SOUTH WEST MOBILE LIBRARY

New times:		
Drayton	Haywards	11:00 - 11:15
Drayton	The Cross	11:20 - 11:40
Drayton	Lyford Close	11:45 - 12:00

The South West Mobile Library is based at Didcot and calls every two weeks to the above. Forthcoming dates: 2nd, 16th, 30th July. Log-on - www.oxfordshire.gov.uk or tel: 0I235-8I3103

DRAYTON PARISH CHARITIES

A vacancy exists for one of the Drayton Almshouses. If you are over 60 and have a limited income, (or you know someone who might be interested), please apply for an application form to:

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GARD REPORT

DRAYTON DIARY

FOR JULY All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise (To book Drayton Hall call Ann Webb on 531418) website address www.draytonvh.org.uk **Regular Events are listed opposite** 5th 2.00 – 5.00 pm Community Day Sat Sat 5th 10.00 - 11.00 am Fair Trade Sale Church Sun 6th All day Bowls Club 11.15 - 11.45 am Fair Trade Sale Sun 6th Church 7th 7.30pm Parish Council Meeting Caudwell DC Mon Sat 12th Club booking 14th 5.15 pm Chronicle copy deadline Vickery's box Mon 6th 11.15 – 11.45 am Fair Trade Sale Church Sun Mon 21st D.V.M.C. 27th Private Party Sun Small Hall

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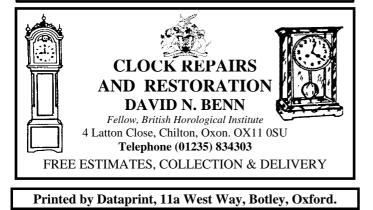
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REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

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 ho	ours)	
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 1 ¹ / ₂ hours)	St Peter's	
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)		
TUESDAY	S		
9.00 am		l Ground Bldg	
1.45 pm		ell 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	
WEDNESD	-		
9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School		
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	-	
11.20 am		e Green Car Pk	
2.00 pm		ell Day Centre	
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the m	onth)	
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 ho		
7.30 pm	Bingo Session Caudwe		
7.20		ell Day Centre	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	ell Day Centre School	
THURSDA	League Table Tennis YS	School	
-	League Table Tennis YS Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School	School Ground Bldg	
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