

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 31 No. 8

September 2008

## ALLOTMENTS ARE IN

One of the very few duties that a parish council must carry out is to provide allotments. Over the years there has been a huge reduction in the number of allotments in the village but for at least the last twenty years even the remaining area behind Church Lane has had unused plots. **Until now that is.**

While we celebrate the increase in interest and also the general pattern of better use of all the plots, we have to be concerned about the fact that there are now 6 people on the **waiting list**. Given the substantial difficulties that would be experienced in expanding the area of allotments, the PC has had to look more closely at the tenancy agreement and to be more active in the management of the existing area.

The PC cannot do anything about carrot fly, drought or blight, but are obliged to be concerned about the extent to which allotments are cultivated and the fair and orderly change of tenants.

Whilst personal arrangements between family and friends can be well intentioned, the PC has to try to ensure that those reaching the top of the waiting list are offered plots as they become available.

The PC is proposing to hold a **meeting at 7.30pm on Monday 8th September in the Caudwell Day Centre** for all allotment holders, for those on the waiting list and for those who are thinking that having an allotment might be a good idea some time in the near future.

We hope to have a useful exchange of views so that everybody interested in this subject - including the PC - will have a better understanding of how the provision of allotments could be managed in the future. *Daniel Scharf* (for Parish Council)

Oxfordshire Alzheimer's Society

## Plant Sale

St Swithun's Church, Kennington

Saturday 13th September

10.00 am to noon

Admission Free

Public Car Park next to Health Centre

Plants - Refreshments - Produce

Gardening Information - Raffle



## MILLENNIUM GREEN

In July we had another pond maintenance day when the usual group of experienced helpers worked for over 2 hours continuing to clear the invasive weeds. As we can only work from the side, Kevin Brock fetched his dinghy which meant he could go in further and clear away the reed mace, which was hiding the water lilies. The children who were helping were very excited thinking they were going to have a boat trip round the pond! (see picture below).

We all went home plastered in mud but satisfied with the morning's work.

The next (and last) time this year for **pond work** will be at **10 am on Sat 20th Sept - do join us if you can!**

The plaque on the gate has had to have some new lettering and has now been remounted. We are hoping to grow some wild flowers from seed, with some professional advice as to the best methods. *Gwen & Tony Price (531205)*



DAMASCUS Youth Project

## Drayton Youth Zone & Drayton Drop In

Weekly from Monday 8th September (nb see page 7)

6.30-7.30 Youth Zone (yr 6-10)

7.45-8.45 DDI (15+)

Drayton Village Hall Admission Charge £1

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

St Peter's Drayton on Sunday 28th September

## Harvest Celebration

10:30 at St Peter's Church

Speaker: Rev Glyn Evans

Diocesan Rural Officer  
and SE Coordinator  
of the Farm Crisis Network

Thanksgiving for work on the church



## Harvest Carvery Lunch

12noon for 1pm at Drayton Golf Club

Followed by entertainment

Tickets from church members  
or from the Vicarage; 531374  
Adults £15 Children £10

Family ticket (2 adults & 2 children) £45

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **October Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, Sept 26th**, 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, Sept 15th 2008.**

**After this deadline**, items are given less precedence for inclusion (No guarantees!), and certainly need to reach us by the Wednesday.

**STOP PRESS** - ADVERTISERS should note that the deadline for ads is EARLIER, Friday Sept 12th, due to their preparation time.

NB :- **Can we politely remind** Contributors that the above **deadlines** are exactly that; there seems to be a trend (with increasing use of e-mail) of sending items later. It should perhaps 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. 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 (and please use a meaningful title, we get a lot called Chronicle!) :-

(next editor)	editor@draytonchronicle.net
Derek Pooley	derek_pooley@talk21.com
David Lee	david_r.lee@ntlworld.com
Tony Holmes	tony-holmes@ntlworld.com

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

2. A **recording device such as CD or DVD** (even the old Floppy Disk!); **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 a bit 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 things, 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, OR send your requirements :- [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net)

# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

## RESULTS OF THE AUGUST LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mrs Annells 39, Lockway	Sue Ash
£20	N. Kidd 7, Binning Close	Judith Dunster
£15	Mr Tolmie, 18, Corneville Road	Gerald Redman
£10	D. Keeping 4, Mill Road, Abingdon	Jenny Keeping
£10	Mr Irving, 'Walnut' Abingdon Road	Gerald Redman
£10	K Davies, 6, Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	Mr J Stevens, 44, Abingdon Road	Jennie Stevens
£10	David Lee, 15, Comeville Road,	Gerald Redman
£10	Miss Goldblatt, 5, Greenacres	Keith Clough
£10	C. Arnold, 95, Abingdon Road	Julie Brown

Winning tickets, from a total of 2196 sold, were drawn by staff at The Forge Garage. We do need more Agents - could YOU help?

## Going Away? *KEYMINDERS*

**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:-
November	20 Oct	31 Oct
December	17 Nov	28 Nov
Jan/Feb	12 Jan	23 Jan

## GARDEN RESCUE

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## ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON WIVES

Pam Lacey

We had a wonderfully hot and sunny day for our outing to Waterperry Gardens in July. We had a very knowledgeable guide, Mary Spiller, for our tour, Mary having been responsible for designing and planting a large part of the gardens.

I think we were all inspired by the stunning variety and colours of the plants and that this might make us think more about what could be achieved in our own gardens. Following our tour of the gardens we all enjoyed a very welcome cup of tea with lovely homemade scones, jam and cream. We then had a short time to visit the museum, gallery and farm shops before returning home after a very enjoyable afternoon.

#### Dates for your Diary in September

Wed 3rd	VISIT	Didcot Power Station. (Meet at Drayton Hall at 10 am)
Mon 8th	COFFEE	Trudi Buckner, 52 Whitehorns Way
Mon 15th	WHIST	Pat Percival Caudwell D.C.
Wed 24th	MEETING	Dr Geoff Hide - Whitchurch Silk Mill

## THE WHEATSHEAF



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(to include a pint, or a glass of wine)

**Take away Fish & Chips:** served Mon - Sat until 8pm

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

Senior Citizens Lunchtime Menu Tuesday to Friday  
£5.95 including sweet

**Bookings :- call Gel or Austin (01235 531485)**

**Drayton (on the village green)**

### The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

We regret having had to cancel at short notice last month's Family Event. This is now taking place on **Saturday Sept 13th** in the grounds of the Lantern Restaurant at Steventon - we hope you will come along and enjoy the afternoon with us, we look forward to seeing you there.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday 15th September at 8 pm.

**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.

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

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

Mondays, Tuesdays & Saturdays 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Wednesday closed all day

Thursdays & Fridays 9.00 am to 6.00 pm

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

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**WORKSHOP: 01865 864636**

### ADVANCE NOTICE - CHARITY EVENT

**SOBELL GIFT FAIR**

**Kingston Bagpuize House,**

Tuesday, 7th October

10 am to 4.30 pm



This will be the 22nd year of the Sobell Gift Fair and with over 60 stalls selling a wide variety of gifts, clothing and household goods, there is certain to be something for everyone. Many of the goods are hand-made or individually sourced by the stallholders from all over the world, giving a wide variety of choice, and some items are never available in the shops.

Refreshments are available all day, including delicious lunches, morning coffee and afternoon tea. Entrance £3.00 inc parking.

The Fair takes place in the beautiful surroundings of Kingston Bagpuize House and visitors to the Fair will have the opportunity to view inside the house, and also visit the extensive gardens, all included in the entrance price. All proceeds from the Fair go to support the work of Sobell House Hospice, providing palliative and end of life care to the residents of Oxfordshire.

## W. J. TAYLOR & SONS

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# ST PETER'S CHURCH

**Priest in Charge** Revd Sister Josie Midwinter 531374  
**OLM 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
Weds	10.30 am	Pebbles (term time only)	Church Room
Friday *	<b>7.45 pm</b>	Choir Practice (*Alt'ate Fridays)	Church Room

### CALENDAR

#### SEPTEMBER

Tues 2nd	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sat 6th	10.00 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods (until 11 am)	
Sun 7th	11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods (until 11.45 am)	

### PARISH REGISTER

<b>Burial of Ashes</b>	July 16th	<b>Elizabeth Caroline Porter</b>
	July 29th	<b>Violet Cross</b>
	August 4th	<b>Valerie Miles</b>
	August 6th	<b>Ann Mott</b>
<b>Baptism</b>	August 17th	<b>Eleanor Emma Duxbury</b>

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

31 Aug - 13 Sept:- Lockway, Whitehorns Way  
 14 - 20 Sept:- Corneville Rd, Crabtree Lane, Lesparre Close  
 21 - 27 Sept:- Drayton Rd, Milton Rd, New Cut Mill, Fisher Close, Marcham Rd, Meads Close, Rippington Court, Stone Mill.



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## Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

## **Welcome**

**WELCOME**

## Welcome

St Peter's church is a place of welcome. Welcome to those who come in thanksgiving & praise, welcome to those who come in sorrow & distress, welcome to all people whatever their condition of life.

The church and churchyard are open and the welcome is there for all who chose to accept the invitation. Some people come for a special occasion like a baptism, wedding or funeral. Some come week by week to the regular services and some come just to sit and enjoy the peace and tranquillity. Some come to tend a grave or walk the dog. Whatever the reason **all are welcome**.

It is clear people in Drayton value the church for all these reasons and so we had a good response to our appeal raising £4,601.70 (£5,753.60 with tax reclaim). We were able to put this together with two bequests, money from concerts and £2000 from Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. This has meant we have been able to get on with some essential work on the church.

The choir vestry window has been repaired (see pic p8) and the lightning conductor has been fitted. The rewiring of the church will take place during the first three weeks of October. The church will be **closed during that time** but we can use the church room.

To keep the church in good order we need to do more than keep it in good repair. A dedicated team of volunteers do such things as:- clock-winding, flower arranging, cleaning, washing linen, maintaining the churchyard, etc. People ring the bells, sing in the choir and play the music. It is the combined efforts of such people that make St Peter's the well-loved place it is, able to offer a warm welcome every day of the week.

At our **Harvest Festival on 28 September** we will take the opportunity to give thanks for keeping the church in good order. This includes the current work done & in progress, but also includes those volunteers who keep it so well on a regular basis.

**Invitations** have gone out to everyone in the village as we would like to include you all in our harvest and thanksgiving celebrations. You may not come to the church on a regular basis, but perhaps **this is an opportunity to join us for this celebration.**

Welcome to you all

*Josie Midwinter*

### **THAMES VALLEY FARMERS MARKETS** – Fresh,

Quality produce, Locally produced, at a Competitive price

**(Discover the taste of really fresh meat & veg,  
and buy directly from the producer)**

SEPTEMBER Dates

Abingdon (3rd Monday) – 15th Didcot (2nd Sat) - 13th

Newbury (1st & 3rd Sundays) – 7th / 21st

Reading (1st & 3rd Sats) – 6th / 20th

TVFM news - ring 0870 241 4762 - website Tvfm.org.uk

Usually the markets run from about 8.30 am until lunchtime, Newbury market is on a Sunday (the first one is the largest) and starts about 9; it usually has a fishmonger & greengrocers (remember them?!), and excellent stalls for cakes, pies, and various organic meats.

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON PLAYERS **Jean Hager**

Our next production is not many weeks off, and it is time to think about **booking tickets**. For an evening of comedy and lightheartedness, we are presenting **BLACK COMEDY**, by Peter Shaffer, preceded by an amusing curtain-raiser.

Performance dates are Sept 25/26/27th, for **tickets** and all other info **contact Sue on 200350**. We look forward to your company.

The wheels are now beginning to turn behind our February 2009 musical **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF**. Much of the cast list is now completed, but **there are still some characters to be settled**, so do give our director Peter Jackson a call (531472) if you'd like to join in the fun.



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*Please ring for an appointment*

### Drayton TODDLERS **Julie Laws**

Hope you are all enjoying the summer break. Without wanting to wish the holidays away, please note that we will be meeting at the Abbey Grounds (by the park/sprinklers) for our session on **Thursday 11 September, from 10am**. If it's raining then meet at Snakes and Ladders. Please call Tracey or Cass if you want to check on the day.

We are now on Facebook! Find us at Little Monkeys – Drayton Toddlers. Our page is still in development but we would love you to join our group if you are a Facebook fan.

If you haven't received a copy of the minutes from the last meeting for parents/carers, please see Cass or Tracey.

Toddlers is open **every Thursday from 9.30am - 11.30am** and is run on a membership basis. More information is available from **Cass** on 07849 314916 or **Tracey** on 07732 533057.

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

We would like to welcome Hamish Anderson, Kian Durkin, Liam Head, Neve Humphreys, Samuel Laws, Grace Payne, Molly Prior, Charlotte and Theo Puncher, Evie Ricketts, Freya Ryan and Randaja Samarasimighe as they join us for the new term. We hope they have lots of fun and enjoy being with us.

We do still have a few sessions available, please telephone Preschool on 01235 536094 for more information or if you would like a Welcome Pack.

We return to Preschool for the new school year on Wednesday 3rd September. Our theme for the new term is **OURSELVES**, looking at all the things that make each one of us special and different.

We have been having a summer sort out, which included rearranging some of the furniture, renewing a few tired toys and a general tidy up. Whilst there over the summer break we have noticed that we have a pumpkin growing nicely. We are looking forward to seeing how big it will grow!!

We look forward to receiving the new items that we managed to order via Sainsbury's Active Kids and Tesco Computers for School vouchers. **Thank you to everyone** who handed them in, they really make a difference.

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.**

### **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:- Jean Hager (531558), Sally Dixon (531547), Ros Blogg (535589) or Margaret Watts (527145).



## **The Red Lion**



Glenn & Janet welcome you

11.30am – 11pm Monday to Saturday

12 noon – 10.30pm Sunday

Come and try our delicious home-cooked food

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

Lunches Monday – Saturday 11.30am – 2pm

Evening Meals Monday – Friday 6pm – 8pm

Senior Citizen lunchtime discount 20%

En-suite Bed & Breakfast available, call for details

We are always seeking people to join our darts, aunt sally, cribbage and pool teams, if interested, just pop-in

For party bookings or enquiries

Phone 01235 531457



## **The Red Lion**



### **DRAYTON'S NEW PCSO**

You may like to know that Drayton's new Police Community Support Officer is :- Sandra Syphas, whose contact details are - [sandra.syphas@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:sandra.syphas@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk) & phone 0845 8 505 505 - can be reached quite quickly.

## 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

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## (MORE) ALL AROUND

### DRAYTON W.I. Brenda Malin

Many people express an interest in the Women's Institute but seem a little unsure, worrying they may have to produce a perfect 'Victoria sponge' or be handy with a needle, nothing could be further from the truth - you have only to ask my family! - but you will find a wide variety of interests fun and friendship.

Anyone who is interested in the WI and would like to find out more is most welcome to join us informally, at our meeting on the **second Thursday of each month** at the Caudwell Day Centre (7.30 pm).

### MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If your Area Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle, 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.

## 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 Sept 2nd, and Oct 7th. If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.



### CLOCK REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

We wish a warm welcome to **Claire, Ian, George and Annabelle Simpson**, who have come to live in the High Street - we hope your stay in Drayton will be very happy.

## VILLAGE VOICES

The Village Hall (small hall - best for its acoustics) has been booked for 3.00pm on Sunday 7th September for the **re-launch of the 'village choir'** – with apologies to other singing groups that require singing skills or religious leanings.

We will be singing some of the favorites from our previous existence, but the main purpose will be to mould the choir into a shape that would suit the greatest number of village residents wanting to sing together.

If we could achieve two-hour sessions every few weeks this should be more than adequate to satisfy a wide range of tastes.

**Please come to sing** and let us know what kind of choir you would be most likely to attend on a regular basis.

Aspiring accompanists and/or musical directors (Albert Hall or Abingdon Market Place here we come?!) would also be VERY welcome. **Daniel Scharf (531107)**



### JOIN THE WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

\*\*\* PLEASE \*\*\*

Come and join  
Everyone at Looker House

For the World's Biggest Coffee Morning and raise your cup to improve the lives of people affected by cancer.

Date Friday 26th September 2008

From 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

At 79, The Causeway, Steventon, OX13 6SQ

14 stalls come and stock up

Macmillan Cancer Support. Registered charity number 241017.  
No of them charity number 004-16631346

This paper is 100% recycled - please recycle

## YOUR LETTERS

### Thanks for Your Help

Dear Sir, 16 Norris Close (Ab'don)

We would like to say a big "thank you" to Colin & Carol Arnold, who helped us move house on what seemed to be the hottest weekend of the year (so far!).

Also thank you to Carol who made sure we were fed and watered, and thanks to Georgina who had the job of keeping my daughter entertained!

Thank you all very much.

Jane Honey & Richard Winfield

### **Janet Manning HOMOEOPATH**

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### DAMASCUS Mondays

Dear Sir,

**From Monday 8th September** we plan to combine the drop-in sessions for young people at the village hall as part of the Damascus Youth Project. From 6.30 - 7.30 each Monday evening there will be the Drayton Youth Zone (yr 6-10) and from 7.45 - 8.45 the DDI (Drayton Drop In 15+). These sessions provide a place for young people to go and meet their friends. The cost to attend each session will be £1 and the money will be put towards the hall hire and other facilities.

We will be running the sessions for a trial period to see if they suit those using the club and those who volunteer to run them.

The sessions are run by an enthusiastic team of volunteers. If you have any queries regarding the new structure of the clubs or **would like to volunteer** please contact Melanie on 07799 850974. Please do come by and meet Drayton's young people - you'd be very welcome!

**Please note** there won't be either Youth Zone or DDI on Monday 22nd September, when the Drayton Players will be rehearsing their new show.

Melanie Parker



### **Letters to the Editor**

You may request that your name & address are not shown; however we **MUST** have those details, and phone number in case any text needs verification. NB Please also note that, although we welcome submissions on a variety of topics, the Editor reserves the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter or supplied text.

### ***Home Helpers Care Ltd***

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### OCTABUS DIAL-A-RIDE

Residents of the parish may not be aware that a dial-a-ride service for **disabled and mobility-impaired people** operates in this area. Called Octabus, the service operates Mondays to Fridays between 9am and 5pm, and provides a door-to-door service for people who are unable to use, or who find it difficult to use conventional public transport.

To use the service you have to be a scheme member, but this costs just a one-off membership fee of £5. Fares are charged, but concessionary bus passes are accepted, so for most if not all Octabus users the journey will be free. To book the Octabus service you just phone 01865 876176 up to seven days before your journey. Octabus can be used for any sort of journey except for hospital appointments or journeys to County Council run Social Centres.

Information about Octabus is available from the telephone number above, or from libraries, or from County or District Council offices. Octabus is funded by Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford City Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, and West Oxfordshire District Council.

The councils that make up Octabus are currently reviewing the service (which has run since April 2005), as they are considering a new contract for the service from next April, when the current contract runs out. Local Parish Councils are amongst those being consulted, so if you have any views about the Octabus service, or about dial-a-ride in general, **please let your parish council know** before the consultation deadline of 22nd September.

Christine Bartle, Admin Assistant, Oxfordshire Rural Community Council and Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association, Jericho Farm, Worton, Witney OX29 4SZ Tel: 01865 883488.

Email:- christine.bartle@oxonrcc.org.uk

**25TH - 27TH  
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With **DOGGIES** By Jean McConnell  
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## ADVANCE NOTICES

The 25th **Abingdon Marathon** will take place on 19th October. Over 1,000 runners have entered this prestigious event (apparently the UK's third most favourite marathon) which includes Abingdon, Radley, Drayton, Milton and Sutton Courtenay on the 26.2 mile route.

Local residents should be aware of the **runners on the road** if you are out and about in your car.

We are advised that **no roads will be closed**, but runners will be about in Drayton from maybe 9.30 am, that's the first lap through here, and the second lap should be all over somewhere between 12.30 and 1 pm.

Spectators are most welcome to come out and cheer the runners on, and if **anyone would like to be a marshal**, please email [abingdon.marshals@btinternet.com](mailto:abingdon.marshals@btinternet.com) or call Mark Stewart on 07870 493183.

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### ROYAL BERKSHIRE COUNTY SHOW

This year's show will be on Sept 20th and 21st, back with livestock (sadly prevented last year due to foot & mouth).

Readers planning to attend can check out the attractions at the website ([www.newburyshow.co.uk](http://www.newburyshow.co.uk)) but should be aware of the **savings to be had by booking in advance**, locally at the Newbury Building Society in Abingdon or Didcot, also in Wantage at Drewett Neate's, or the Charlton Park Garden Centre (always good for a visit!). Adults will pay £3 more on the gate, concessions £2, and a family ticket is £5 more!

A principal main-ring attraction this year will be the spectacular Household Cavalry Musical Ride, first performed at The Royal Tournament in 1882. Also to be enjoyed are The Shetland Pony Grand National and the mass ascent of the Hot Air Balloons; there are loads of activities for children, an expanded horticulture section, show-jumping, cookery demos, and an off-road area where an expert driver will show you what a 4x4 can really do!

NB **Dog-owners should note**, the ONLY dogs allowed on the showground OR in the car-parks are those for the disabled.

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**BACK ON PAGE 4** Repairs to the Church choir vestry window were mentioned – here is an intrepid worker in action :-



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## PARISH COUNCIL (August 4th)

Three members of the public attended in support of a (not present) neighbour - they all stayed until the end of the meeting and found it interesting. As I am sure you are aware, this is a monthly meeting for all Drayton residents to attend and participate in, **so why don't you come along to the next one** and see and hear for yourselves what is going on in your community. **Everyone is very welcome.**

This month's meeting dealt with mainly routine matters (minutes available on the notice boards).

Some of the matters arising were: -

topple testing of grave headstones, flooding in Sutton Wick, vehicles illegally using a bridleway, grants/donations from the Parish Council, a policy for fly posting/village notice boards, low flying aircraft, & changes to Drayton bus services.

The issue of **low flying aircraft (helicopters)** over the village has been an agenda item for some time. Not because nothing was being done but because some issues take longer to resolve than others. Anyway, due to lots of hard work in the background a **meeting has now been arranged** for personnel from RAF Benson to come and meet Drayton village residents.

So, this is **YOUR** chance to put your side of any issues you have or if you are just interested in knowing what is going on - the date for your diary is **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at 7.30 pm** and will take place in the Day Centre. →>>>>

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**Martin Underwood 01235 847104 or 07748 632563**

There was a discussion on the need for upgrading the village hall/car park and the hedges surrounding the recreation ground which arose from a meeting held in July between the Drayton Village Hall & Recreation Ground and the Football Club. This is an ongoing issue with further investigations needed.

A discussion (but no decision) took place around the Community Day i.e. should it be every year, how it should be funded, who will organise it etc. If you would like to be on the Committee next year or have any queries regarding the event's organization, please call **Melanie Parker on 07799 850974**.

For all the Drayton **bus users** and any potential bus users, you may or may not be aware our bus services have been cut. Also, where you once had only one bus to/from Oxford, you now need two, and hence two fares. Daniel Scharf has been working on your behalf by trying to get the bus services improved. If you have any concerns with this issue, **please let Daniel know** them ASAP.

The cutting of a bush in the graveyard by someone other than the owner was reported to the Parish Council. As you can imagine, this is a very emotive and sensitive matter. So, if anyone knows anything about this, please ring me on **01235 533 574** to enable me to get some kind of understanding as to why this has happened and to try and re-establish harmony within the community.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday 1st September 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Caudwell Day Centre**. Everyone is very welcome to attend. Come and voice your concerns, ask questions or just listen, after all this is all about the community you live in and the future of it. *Isabel Morris*



## Drayton Post Office

Mon - Fri 9 - 5.30 Sat 9 - 12.30

### & CONVENIENCE STORE

Open All Week 8 am - 10 pm

9, The Green, Drayton, OX14 4JA  
01235 531359

The school had a very busy last week of term with sports day, Pauline's leaving do, the leavers' assembly and the leavers' disco.

Sports day was blessed with perfect weather and was a fabulous day enjoyed by all the children and their families who came along for the day and were enthusiastic supporters. The morning was spent doing different challenges in teams; points were awarded for accuracy and fair play and not just legging it! **Well done** to all the children, it was exciting to watch them compete especially as they had designed the different challenges. After lunch, with many families staying and having picnics on the field, traditional running races were held which was great fun to watch. Unfortunately (or thankfully depending on you view!) time ran out and the parent races were not held.

Pauline's leaving do was very successful and very well attended. Some of the older children, past and present, played various musical instruments throughout the evening which was a joy to listen to. Speeches were given by Sian Middleton on behalf of the teachers and Ciaran McDonnell on behalf of the school, parents and governors. Pauline was presented with some beautiful bespoke garden chairs and flowers. Pauline was overwhelmed with emotion as you can imagine and gave a lovely speech which I know will have moved everyone present. →>>



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## Feeling the economic pinch ? (Many of us are!)

**Why not holiday in a British cottage**, or just cheer yourself up with a quick break. **Two excellent websites** are :-

<http://www.holidaycottages.co.uk/> for Farm and Cottage holidays specifically in Devon, Cornwall, Somerset & Dorset

and <http://www.next6weeks.com/> for cottages anywhere in the UK, available just as it says, during the following 6 weeks

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→> Not only was the school saying goodbye to the children of year 6 but to Marion Whiting and to Pauline Higgs as well, so the leavers' assembly was especially emotional this year and as always well attended.

As is tradition in Drayton School, each child leaving year 6 chose a book, or books, which contained a personalised name plate. It was lovely to see the wonderful and varied choices the children had made. Some read out parts of their school diaries which were both funny and moving as a testament to their progress through the school.

Marion was presented with an iPod and some fantastic art equipment and Anita Hedditch, on behalf of FODSA, presented a book from all of the children to Pauline which contained a **drawing that each child had done personally.**

The leavers' disco went well and **thank you** to Dusty Evans for finding a replacement DJ at short notice and Liz Malin for running competitions throughout the night.

The new term starts on Wednesday 3rd September and will be the start of a whole new era for the school with **David Mayer** as the new head teacher.

Forthcoming events (dates to be confirmed very soon) are another quiz night, a Halloween disco in October and the Christmas fair in November.



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Also see their website - [www.helenanddouglas.org.uk](http://www.helenanddouglas.org.uk)

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#### YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk)	Marie Sellwood (200042);
District (VofWH)	Richard Webber (534001);
& Oxfordshire County	Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

#### Royal British Legion (Women)

**Steventon** (Sports Pavilion, Milton Lane, Steventon)

Meetings are held on the first Thursday at 2.30pm, business then a social activity. Feel free to come along and see what goes on. More Info :- Joan Leahy (01235) 831546

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Check out what they accept (you may be surprised!) on the Oxon CC website [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk) and navigate to 'Environment', 'Waste' and 'Recycling'.

#### ED VAIZEY - Your Local MP

If you need to get in touch with me, telephone 020 7219 6350, write to me at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or you can e-mail me on [vaizeye@parliament.uk](mailto:vaizeye@parliament.uk); The Website is [www.vaizey.com](http://www.vaizey.com) with up to date news and surgery details:-

There is no need to book an appointment (times are from 5.30 pm to 7pm unless stated). Upcoming surgeries :- Grove, Old Mill Hall (Sept 5th) and Wantage, Civic Hall (Oct 10th).

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#### MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Devotees of this service will be aware of the Drayton schedule, alternate Wednesdays, but perhaps potential new readers may like to be aware of upcoming dates :- Sept 10 & 24, Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 & 19, stopping at Haywards Road 11:00 to 11:15am, The Cross 11:20 to 11:40 am, and Lyford Close 11:45 to 12 noon.

The library has a wide range of books, info, etc, join online via [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk) - and books can be borrowed for an extra week, four instead of three.

#### OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

**Methodist Chapel** Sunday Service: 10.30 am

High Street, Milton

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

#### LISTINGS

September 13th Henley Show (see [www.thehenleyshow.com](http://www.thehenleyshow.com));  
Sept 18th Thame Show (see [www.thameshow.co.uk](http://www.thameshow.co.uk));  
Sept 19-21st Henley Literary Festival ([www.henleyliteraryfestival.co.uk](http://www.henleyliteraryfestival.co.uk)).

October 3-5 Day out with Thomas at Didcot Railway Centre ([www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk](http://www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk)).

AND **UK Wolf Conservation Trust** - Children's Photography Day - Sept 1st (so be quick) 10 am for 3 hours

**A unique opportunity** for children to take close-up shots, receive photographic advice, and get a tour of the Trust, Ticket £20 per child accompanied by one parent - **booking required** (Ms) Lynn Kent, Butlers Farm, Picklepythe Lane, Beenham, Reading RG7 5NT (phone 0118 9713330) or email [ukwct@ukwolf.org](mailto:ukwct@ukwolf.org)

# DRAYTON DIARIES

## DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER

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	1	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> (p9)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
Tues	2	3.00pm	First Tuesday	<i>Church Room</i>
Sat	6		Private Bookings	
Sun	7		Bowls (all day)	<i>Large Hall</i>
	7	3.00pm	Village Voice Choir (p6)	<i>Small Hall</i>
Mon	8	7.30pm	Allotments Meeting (p1)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
Fri	12		Chronicle Adverts DEADLINE (p2)	
Sun	14		Child's Party	
Mon	15	5.15pm	<b>CHRONICLE DEADLINE</b>	<i>Vickery's</i>
Fri	19		Private Function	
Sat	20		Child's Party	
Sun	21		Players' Set-up	
Thur	25		Drayton Players (also 26/27th)	
Mon	29		WI Group meeting	
Mon	29	7.30pm	Helicopters Meeting (p9)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>

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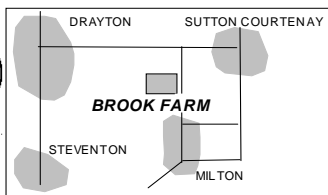
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## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

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

### TUESDAYS

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

### WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
2.00 pm	Whist - now each week	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.30 pm	Table Tennis - League	<i>School</i>

### THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Foot Clinic (1st Thurs)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green Car Pk</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

### FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
6.30pm	Choir Practice	<i>St Peter's</i>

### SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
11.15 am	Family Time (1st Sun)	<i>Baptist Church</i>

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## DISCOVER NEWBURY

September 13 & 14th :- many buildings not usually open will be OPEN to the PUBLIC, incl Shaw House, Bartholomew Manor, and St Nicolas Bell Tower, also (ladies!) Camp Hopson (the store with more); see [www.newbury-society.org.uk](http://www.newbury-society.org.uk) for details.

ANY ERRORS IN THE EVENTS LIST? - LET US KNOW !!

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