

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 33 No. 1

Jan / Feb 2010

SNOW by 'Doggerelle'

White cotton balls adorn the trees,
Icicles begin to freeze,
And fairyland is everywhere
Shining, dazzling, bright and fair.

Children cannot reach their schools,
Workers gladly down their tools,
Others get to work, but late,
While some prefer to hibernate.

Excited laughter fills the air
As testing icy ponds kids dare,
And groups of youngsters snowball fight
In fields all frosty, sparkling white.

Comic snowmen stand on guard
In many a garden and back-yard,
With carrot nose and coal black eyes
And trilby hats and Dads' old ties.

The world seems quiet, life's pace is slowed,
A gentle lull because it's snowed.
Stilled is all life's frenzied rush,
Enjoy the calm and gentle hush.

For those who cannot get about
Neighbours kindly help them out.
People have more time to chatter,
Stop to have a friendly natter.

Inconvenient it might be
For older folk like you and me;
But when all is said and done
The kids are having so much fun,
When old, nostalgically they'll then
Remember winter twenty ten.



A Commuter in the recent snowfall demonstrates that Drayton really needs that extra bus shelter . . . (thanks to Keith Clough)

Valentine's Day Dance/Disco

Sat 13th Feb at Village Hall
8.00pm to 11.30pm (pay bar)

Music from 60s to 80s

Admission by ticket only (see page 7)
phone 535587 or 531107 or from village outlets
Adults £5 accompanied U16s £2
profits to Village Hall funds

Exercise (mental & physical) (p 5) Dog-sitter? (p 9) Celebration Bells (p 4) Old toys?/Flora tokens (p 10)
Almshouse vacancy (p 2 & 9) Lunchtime Help? (p 10) New Blood needed (p13) Letters (p 7, 8 & 11)



Drayton Players Present

Murder
Mystery Night
'Mystery of Talbot Manor'
by Gary Simpson
Audience Participation

Drayton Village Hall

7.30 pm Friday 19th & Saturday 20th February
Tickets £8.00 to include Ploughman's Supper
Tel: 01235 200350
Or from Vickery's Store Drayton

COMING CHRONICLES

The **MARCH Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, Feb 26th**, from **Margaret Armstrong (531122)**, who should be contacted by Agents requiring extra copies.

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

NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, February 15th 2010.

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 Feb 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.

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, though scanned text does require a lot of checking. 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**. Names of people and places in **CAPITALS** please (thanks to those who do), but remember these need typing out; do you know anyone with a PC? (saves us time).

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12th page)

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

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

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

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE JANUARY LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mr. Burrows, 129 Drayton Rd, S C'tnay	Claire Soper
£20	Mr. Viner, 19 Lockway, Drayton	Jenny Pooley
£15	T. Diver, Conifer Hse, Conifer Drive	Darren McDonald
£10	Ms. Grant, 53 Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton	Keith Clough
£10	Mr. Ball, 87 Drayton Road, S C'tnay	Claire Soper
£10	P. Manthorpe, c/o Windy Ridge	Claire Soper
£10	D. Eato, 21 Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton	Keith Clough
£10	Sue Chung, 1 Church Lane, Drayton	Susan Brooks
£10	Mrs B Boyd, 24 Whitehorns Way Drayton	Jan Hager
£10	Janey Woolley, The Red Lion, Drayton	Barbara Purbrick

Winning tickets, from a total of 2250 sold, were drawn by staff & customers at the Red Lion (Ed:- hope whoever drew that last one got an extra pint!). We do need more Agents - could YOU help?

THE FOLLOWING TWO MONTHS

Issue for	Copy for publication by Mondays (nb Agents Lottery Packs Fri before)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
April	15 March	26 March
May	19 April	30 April

HOLIDAY COTTAGE TO LET IN NORTH DEVON (sleeps 6)

Situated in the picturesque village of Berrynarbor, mid-way between Ilfracombe and Combe Martin



For full details, prices and availability, visit:-
www.headlands-holidays.co.uk
or phone - 01235-531232

DRAYTON ALMSHOUSE CHARITY

A vacancy exists for one of the Drayton Almshouses. Are you interested or do you know of anyone else over the age of 60 who might be interested?

For an application form please apply to:

The Clerk to the Trustees
Gothic House
Drayton
Tel: 01235 531253

ALL AROUND

Drayton TODDLERS

Ana Gurl

The children had a lovely time at their Christmas party and were very pleased to see a special visitor with a present for everyone! A fun time was had by all.

It is nice to see all the toddlers back again now after a slow, snowy start to the New Year.

Drayton Toddlers meet in the village hall on **Thursday mornings 9.30 – 11.30**. We have lots of fun playing together, we have crafts and activities and even stop for a snack and a cuppa for the mums - Thanks Joy!

New members are always welcome. Phone Vicky on 07779 243290 for more info.

THE WHEATSHEAF



**Austin & Geraldine
welcome you: to enjoy**

Traditional **Home Cooked** Food,
Fine Wines and Beers
In Friendly Comfortable Surroundings.

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

Delicious Home Cooked Roast Lunch:
Sunday 12 - 3.30 pm

Senior Citizens Lunchtime Menu
Tuesday to Friday £6.50 including sweet

**Bookings :- call Gel or Austin (01235 531485)
Drayton (on the village green)**

The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

At the recent AGM all officers were returned unopposed. A delegate and the secretary will be attending the County Conference at Newbury in mid-Jan.

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

Please 'HELP US TO HELP THEM' by supporting our annual Easter Draw - all proceeds donated to the Royal Star & Garter Homes, tickets on sale at the usual outlets.

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

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

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



Men now welcome at any time - so why not call in?

Special rates for Pensioners and Free Car Parking

W. J. TAYLOR & SONS

FORGE GARAGE

HIGH STREET, DRAYTON
Nr. ABINGDON, OXON OX14 4JW

SUN Tuning

Car, M/C & 3-Wheeler

M.O.T. WHILE YOU WAIT

CAR - Service and Repairs

VINTAGE WEDDING CAR HIRE

Telephone ABINGDON 531350

Drayton BOWLS Club

'Roll Up'

It's with great sadness that we start these notes announcing the loss of Doreen, our long standing Chairperson (see tribute p6).

Finals day was again a very successful day and the following picking up the trophies for the year 2009.

'Didcot Windows' open singles **Tony Wright**

'Derek Messenger' Ladies singles **Pat Hoyland**

'Jean Mullins' Gents singles **Nick Carter**

'The Attwood' cup **Josie Carter**

'Henry Bunce' handicap pairs **John Goodacre. June Hyde**

'Don Alexander' 2 wood Triples

John Goodacre. Josie Carter. Pat Mitchenson

'Wally Weightman' 2 wood triples

John Goodacre. Carol Smith. Eileen Long

'Beryl James' 3 wood triples

John Goodacre. Josie Carter. Graham Lacey

'Rose bowl' Triples league

John Goodacre. Kay Attwood. Pat Mitchenson

'John Berry' fours league

Gordon Smith. Bryn Jones. Julie Brain. Pam Smith

'Ladies v Gents' - Gents! 'Handicap Tournament' **Chris Smith**

The league teams are looking good at the half-way stage with 'The Rollers' in top spot on shot difference, and looking for a strong second half finish to top the table by the end of March; the best of the afternoon teams are 'The Wasps' who are third but only two points off the pace, so must also be in with a chance of topping the table come the end of the season.

Letters to the Editor

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

DRAYTON W.I.

Shirley Thomas

Our year ended with our Annual Christmas celebration. We were entertained in a very festive way by "Pandemonium", a folk group who soon got our feet tapping. The Day Centre was decorated which added to the occasion, the 'bring and share' supper was delicious and a good time was had by all.

A few members attended the W.I. Carol concert at the Town Hall in Oxford, always a wonderful start to the Christmas celebrations.

At our next meeting in January we are still in the party mood and will start the year by going out for supper.

HAPPY NEW YEAR DRAYTON.

<<<<<==== NB After many years of trimming the menfolk of Drayton on Monday evenings, Margaret has decided to have her dinner at a more normal time - but as her ad says, Gents can now get a coiffure at ANY time, so just drop in, (or phone to check).

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge Revd Sister Josie Midwinter 531374
Minister in training Revd Rosie Bruce 525284
Churchwardens Mrs Sue Harris 848361
 Mrs Val Cross 535183
Choir Director Jo Burn

CHURCH NOTICES

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW - Traditional).
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW) except 3rd Sunday, when a non-Eucharistic Praise 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 *	7.00 pm	Choir Practice (*Alt'ate Fridays)	Church Room

CALENDAR for FEBRUARY

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)	
Tues 16th	10.00 am	Peel of Bells (to 1pm)	
Weds 17th	7.30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service	
Sun 21st	10.00 am	Celebration Bellringing	

PARISH REGISTER

Funerals	Nov 27th	Eric James
		Ena Simmonds
	Dec 3rd	Doreen Jones
	Dec 15th	Rachel Popplestone
	Dec 21st	Jane Slupek
At Crematorium	Dec 11th	Judith Audrey Kimber

YOU STAY – WE PRAY (February)

Jan 31st to Feb 6th :- Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane & Conifer Drive

7th to 20th :- Lockway; Whitehorns Way.

21st to 27th :- Corneville Rd; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close



FREEMANS FLOWERS



BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS FOR ANY OCCASION

ORDER NOW FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

SUNDAY 14TH FEB

LOCAL & NATIONAL DELIVERIES

137 BRASENOSE ROAD DIDCOT
OXON OX11 7BP

TEL: 01235 814479

freemansflowers@btconnect.com



Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

'All the bells are ringing'

The Victorians were by all accounts an energetic people. Such TV programmes as 'The Victorian Farm' illustrate their genius for reform which improved the lives of people on all levels of society.

What was true of farms, industry and society was also true of the church. At the beginning of the nineteenth century most churches were neglected and in a state of disrepair. The Oxford Movement of 1833 injected a new enthusiasm into church life. In 1855 the curate at St Peter's, Thomas Mortimer spearheaded improvements to the building. He introduced new pews for the growing population, removed the music gallery and erected the chancel arch. (There are two water colour paintings at the back of the church showing the old gallery).

Rev F Theobald, who was the first vicar of Drayton, continued this reform and was especially good at pastoral care, in 14 years he did 476 baptisms, 78 weddings and 200 funerals. Revs Gary, Mortimer and Theobald were all instrumental in setting up and developing the school for village children.

All this growth and reform was enhanced and consolidated by Rev Francis Robinson who was vicar for thirty years from 1878 to 1908. He introduced an organ and robed choir, and also carved the choir stalls and priest stall which are still in use today. In addition he carved other things in the church like the porch and the screen at the back (finished after his death by others).

His most enduring contribution to both Drayton and wider church life was in the matter of bell ringing. Bell ringing had a bad reputation. The few bells that existed were rung by a motley crew of men who were more interested in the payment they received and the alehouse where they could spend it! Most vicars ignored the bell ringers who made no contribution to the life of the church.

Rev Robinson and various other clergy were keen to alter this situation. On 13 November 1880 they held a meeting of clergy and lay people in the Oxford Diocese to begin a process of training and standardising bell ringing. This led to the foundation of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bellringers which Robinson chaired. Over the next 20 years Robinson invested much time and energy in establishing excellent ringing chambers not only in Drayton but all round the diocese. So comprehensive was his expertise that he gained a national and even international reputation. Even today we get many groups of bell ringers wanting to come and use our bells.

In 2005 the bells were rung commemorating the 125th anniversary of the founding of the guild of bell ringers. In the bell chamber you can see numerous plaques commemorating this and other special ringing events.

PEEL OF BELLS: On Tuesday 16th February Drayton Bellringers will be ringing a Peel of Bells from 10am to 1pm to commemorate 100 years since the death of Robinson.

CELEBRATION: On Sunday 21st Feb (10am) we will celebrate the work of bellringing and give thanks for the life of Robinson who made such an enduring contribution to the life of the church here in Drayton and throughout the diocese. We will have contributions from Drayton Bellringers and Wallingford Handbell Ringers.

Josie Midwinter

FORTHCOMING Police 'Surgery' :-

23rd February 6pm to 7pm Village Hall, Sutton Courtenay.

For more information about your local neighbourhood team, contact 0845 8 505 505

(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton Pre-School Playgroup Debbie Bargas

We hope everybody had a great Christmas and hope the New Year has started well. We would like to welcome Grace, Julia, Isabella, Taylor and Alice who have all joined us this term, we hope they enjoy the time they spend with us.

Our topic this term is Feelings. We will be talking about our and other peoples feelings. How our body language shows how we feel. And how our facial expressions also show our feelings.

We had quite an exciting time in the run up to Christmas, as well as the children and staff practising their singing, we also had a Christmas party with entertainment from Uncle Wiggy and the children had the chance to get some last minute requests to Santa. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the party and donated to the Raffle and we hope everyone enjoyed the children singing, they all did really well.

We welcomed Sam back from maternity leave after the last half term; it's great to see her back. Unfortunately at Christmas, Oz our Supervisor left Preschool, she will be sorely missed after many years service and we would like to thank her for all she has done for Preschool and wish her well for the future. **We are currently looking to recruit a replacement Supervisor.** Our remaining staff are covering all sessions.

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 (eg Amazon, Next, Play.com, Ebay, Churchill Insurance, AA, and The Book People), **they give a percentage to us at no extra cost to you.** Plus many more new outlets.

Dates: Friday 12th Feb :- End of Term 3

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

MILLENNIUM GREEN POND NEWS

Thank you to all the volunteers who have taken a turn to clear litter on the Green. **The rota in 2010** will continue to be the same. If for any reason you are unable to do it next year please let me know. Also if you would like the list to remind you, please contact me. As the pond was becoming out of control with the rapid growth of reed mace, we have had a pond conservationist to do some clearing for us. Our local group of volunteers may still be needed next year. Thank you to Steve Penney, who has regularly weeded the Sun-dial area.
Gwen Price (531205)

Hazel Lee

Painter & Decorator
Interior & Exterior
Free quotes
07866 509683

hazel.lee78@hotmail.co.uk



N. HAYCROFT PLUMBING

A complete Plumbing Service

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

Over 30 years experience

All work fully guaranteed and fully insured

Tel : 01235 814739

DRAYTON PLAYERS Jean Hager

As you will see, from the advert elsewhere in this issue (p1), we have sorted ourselves out for the February production and indeed, it's almost upon us! **We are delighted to present another murder mystery** (following last year's successful evenings) with **audience participation and interval supper** included.

Rehearsals have been underway for some time, and the plot is developing in a nicely complicated way which will require close attention from each sleuth out front; maybe a Miss Marple think-a-like, or even someone with the Wallander approach?

Performances of **The Mystery of Talbot Manor** will be on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th Feb, curtain-up at 7.30. For tickets (£8 including supper) contact 01235 200350, or visit Vickery's in the village, who we thank for acting as an extra box office.

We look forward to welcoming YOU for a fun-filled night out!

Learn to Drive with your Local Instructor

Fast friendly patient tuition

Door to door home or work

Evening and weekend appointments available

Discount on pre paid block booking

PHILIP PULLEN 07733 360230

Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

Happy New Year to all who read this and to Ping-pongers everywhere. Recently the Didcot League held their Divisional Championships. This involves players competing individually against opponents from their own Division. Playing outside the team enables players to relax and play more freely as they are not influencing a team performance. At the time of writing I can report that Ryan Seamark reached the semi finals in the Division 5 event as did John Gould in the Division 2 competition.

In the League, the A team are setting a cracking pace at the top of Division 1 with 6 wins and a draw from seven ties played. The E team in Division 3 are lying second with Kevin Davies starring having won 17 out of 18 matches played.

Without doubt the most competitive league is Division 2 where the eleven teams are closely matched. Our C & D teams currently lie 5th & 4th in the Division with seven ties played.

New players are still welcome to attend our Monday Night practice. Children from 9 upwards (accompanied by a parent) can come from 7.00 p.m. They will receive coaching from Matt Wicks and his willing helpers. We have a supply of bats so just bring yourselves. **Adults can come from 8.00 p.m. onwards. At £1 per session it is good exercise that everyone can afford.**

BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Secretary:- Mrs Jayne Henderson..... 522161

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

K. L. YATES BUILDERS

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING SERVICES

Extensions and Alterations

Property Maintenance

Kitchens and Ceramic Tiling

Carpentry and Laminate Flooring



Call **RICHARD** for an estimate on
01235 531275 or mobile 07788 738248

Qualified Personal Trainer

. . . offers day-time running club,
Toning classes and yoga in
Steventon and Milton

from only £3.50 per class

www.dendy.co.uk 07714 896003

POST
OFFICE

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

A TRIBUTE TO DOREEN JONES

(Chairperson of Drayton Bowls Club, 1991-2002 & 2004-2009)

As the Club mourns the passing of our long-standing Chairperson, it is appropriate that we record at least some of her contributions that made our Club the success it is today.

For 21 years, Drayton Bowls Club was Doreen's life. She was one of the founder members way back in June 1988, and from the very beginning she put her heart and soul into the Club for which she was later awarded Life Membership.

Quite early on she organised a competition to design a Club badge, which we still use today, and for several years she organised our members' bowling holidays.

When we first started our Sunday competitions, they included a cooked lunch. It was quite something to bowl with a background of appetising aromas from the kitchen, where Doreen and others would have been hard at work since the crack of dawn.

Later on, she thought it would be good to go out for an evening meal after each competition, and quite a few local establishments should be indebted to her for that idea.

She was an avid record keeper, and quite often she would come to the Club and sit quietly in the corner making copious notes of this and that, in her ledgers, a mass of detailed information that was invaluable when writing a history of the Club.

Doreen felt strongly that the Club should have an active social side, to involve the non-playing spouses and partners, and even during her break from Chairperson, she acted as 'social secretary'. Trips to the theatre, dog-racing, and skittles evenings were down to her. She was keen for the Club to support events promoted by the Village, and was always involved with organising our Annual Dinners.

In our early years, there was little appetite in the Club for league play, but with encouragement from other Clubs, and not a little trepidation, Doreen felt we should give it a try, and the rest is history. Although she liked to win, her own cache of trophies was of little consequence to her. The *Club's* success, in which she played no small part, was her most cherished trophy.

The love and devotion that Doreen gave to our Club is immeasurable, and now she's joined a new club, **we shall miss her.**

Norman Hopkins - Club President

OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

Methodist Chapel Sunday Service: 10.30 am
High Street, Milton
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

Wooden Spoon Recipe No. 33 (from March 2000)
by **LOIS RENNELLS** Salmon & Prawn 'En Croute' (serves 2)

1 340 gram packet puff pastry, 200 grams salmon (cubed), 50 grams prawns, rind and juice of ½ lime, 1 tablespoon finely chopped coriander, 2 teaspoons butter, 1 beaten egg.

Preheat the oven to 200°C/Mark 6. Roll out the pastry into a square, approximately 12" x 12", then cut into four pieces. Place the salmon onto two of the pastry pieces, top with prawns, coriander, knob of butter, a squeeze of lime juice and a little zest.

Season lightly. Brush the edges of the pastry with beaten egg. Place the remaining two pieces of pastry on top and seal tightly.

Knock up the edges and make two cuts in the top of each 'en croute'. Place them on a baking sheet and brush with beaten egg.

Leave to rest in the fridge for 15 minutes. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes until well risen and golden.

Serve with baby vegetables, new potatoes and lime wedges.



Beetle Drive

2pm on Sunday 28th February
in the Caudwell Day Centre.

Beetle is a game, which is easy to play by all age groups and produces lots of fun. Refreshments included. First prize and booby prize. Raffle.

Tickets £3 for adults and £1 for children.

In aid of St Peter's church

for tickets ring the Vicarage on 01235 531374

YOUR LETTERS

Valentine's Day (in the Hall)

Dear Sir, via e-mail

Last month Ann Webb wrote asking us to use our hall "or risk losing it". Although the Parish Council is proposing to budget to assist the Hall in covering its expected deficit for 2010/11, putting it mildly, it does not appear to be very sensible to raise Council Tax from village residents when the same amount of money could be spent in putting this village facility to good use.

I have put 'my money where my mouth is' and booked the Hall for a **Valentine's Day dance/disco on 13th Feb** (see advert here and on noticeboards) and my friend Paul Clark has offered not to charge for running a disco based mainly on 60s to 80s music. The Wheatsheaf will be running the bar.

I hope that there will be profits to give to the Hall and that other people and organisations will pick up the baton and organise **follow-up events** for at least one Saturday night in most months of the year?

Admission will only be by tickets, from Paul, me (phone 535587 and 531107) or village outlets. **Please come and have a good night out** on 13th Feb, but also to show that you value the Hall and want to keep it available in the future for more regular use by village residents.

Yours sincerely Daniel Scharf



Candlelight Carols

Dear Sir, via email

Many thanks to all who gave so generously at the Candlelight Carols in the Village Hall, £310.40 (the most ever!) was raised which has been sent off to 'Action for Children'.

I look forward to seeing you all again next time on Sunday 5th December - put it in your diary now!

Geoff Caudle

Home Helpers Care Ltd

The Office 25 The Nursery Sutton Courtenay Oxon OX14 4UA
Tel: 01235 848822 Fax 01235 848688
(Established since 1993)

Providing Services in the South & Vale to:

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

Courtenay Computer Services

Repairs, Upgrades, Email/Internet/Broadband; New hardware or software including Anti-Virus, Firewall and Anti-Spyware; Networking, both Ethernet and wireless, Networks, Broadband.

Web Site design; One-to-one tuition: Internet, Email, Photo-enhancing, Spreadsheet, Word Processing, or simply a basic introduction to your computer... any issue that prevents you getting the best from your PC.

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

Martin Underwood 01235 847104 or 07748 632563
www.courtenaycomputers.co.uk

Doreen Jones (1932 – 2009)

Dear Sir, via email

May I, through the Chronicle, express my sincere thanks to all my family and many friends for the cards of sympathy and donations, at the sad loss of my wife Doreen.

The donations will go towards providing a bench seat at the end of Ward two at Abingdon hospital to the memory of Doreen.

Many thanks again Bryn Jones



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.



Jazz & Swing Concert / 'Abingdon Bridge'

Dear Sir, Halls Close

May I use the Chronicle to thank everyone who came to the **Jazz and Swing concert** in Drayton Hall in December. The profit was nearly £1,500 (not £5,000 as reported in the recent Abingdon Herald) and this has been given to the 'Abingdon Bridge' for its work helping vulnerable and disadvantaged (and often difficult) youngsters in this area. We at the Bridge are very grateful.

Our special thanks to Boulevard Swing and their leader, Drayton's Brian Thompson, for making the whole thing possible, selling many of the tickets and performing so brilliantly on the night.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Pooley

Janet Manning

HOMOEOPATH

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

01235 527603

11 Newman Lane, Drayton

Life Guards – Well Done !

Dear Sir, via e-mail

We would like to congratulate three young people from the village who all go to Abingdon Swimming Club and are all now qualified Royal Life Saving Society Rookie Life Guards.

They also took part in the distance swimming evening during December at which 27 youngsters covered a combined distance of over 19 miles in two hours.

The three are **Thomas Deabill** (Rookie Bronze and 2000 metres) **Georgina Arnold** (Rookie Silver and 3000 metres) and **Lauren Brown** (Rookie Silver and 4000 metres).

WELL DONE to all of you.

The proud parents



More of YOUR LETTERS

Royal British Legion, Watchfield

Dear Sir, 11 High Street, Milton

When there is a Repatriation of a serviceman killed in action, we drive over to Watchfield (near Shrivenham) to join a growing band of people who stand in the various lay-bys along the A420 as each cortège makes its solemn way from RAF Lyneham to the JR Hospital (where post-mortems are held).

In addition to the courageous example of Wootton Bassett (which is relatively well known) there are between 1,000 and 2,000 people who regularly make the little pilgrimage to show their respect for young men who have given their lives on behalf of our nation. Every occasion is very moving, with many RBL banners being paraded, and each cortège slows down to walking pace when they see a group of people waiting. We go to Watchfield because it is where groups of former Royal Marines drive from Poole, Guildford, Portsmouth, Northampton and various other far-flung places, but there are many civilians and whole families who make the effort to come out and offer their thanks.

If anyone would like to have prior notice of Repatriations, we can forward the notification e-mail (or phone the details) if you let us have your e-mail or telephone. Each notification comes through three or four days beforehand, with estimates of the cortège times along the A420 road. **Peter & Diana Hasting**

(tel: 01235 834740 e-mail diamar@onetel.com)

Bramleys of Abingdon Ltd.

HOME EXTENSION SPECIALISTS
and GENERAL BUILDERS

72 Steventon Road
Drayton, Abingdon
Oxon OX14 4LD
Tel/Fax: Abingdon (01235) **531200**
email: kogel.bramley@virgin.net

Marie Curie Collection

Dear Sir, 93 Abingdon Road

May I, through the Chronicle, say a big "THANK YOU" to the residents of Abingdon Road (that's nos 86 - 140) for their kind donation of £38-27p through the house-to-house collection for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

I'd also like to thank my daughter Emily for her help on those cold and wet winter evenings, it was much appreciated!

Yours Sincerely Julie Brown

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

 **LADIES
GYM**

30 MINUTE WORKOUT

**BOOK YOUR FREE NO OBLIGATION GUEST VISIT NOW
on 01235 537002**

**Fitness in Time, Audlett Drive, Abingdon, OX14 3NJ
www.fitnessintime.co.uk**

 **Try a class for FREE!**
Fun-filled award-winning music and movement classes for kids from 0-7. Classes for babies, toddlers and family groups in Steventon Village Hall.
www.musicforlife.info sarah@musicforlife.info
Call Sarah Whittle on 01235 **832034**

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

Eric James

Dear Sir, Marcham Road

We wish to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of support following the sad loss of Eric James, a much loved husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Our thanks also to Josie for such a special service.

Donations in Eric's memory for the Intensive Care Unit of the John Radcliffe Hospital totalled £947.13p.

Kind regards Kath James and family

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉


Friday Club

Dear Sir,

Sylvia, Beryl, and members of the Friday Club would like to thank the cooks, drivers and helpers for all their support during 2009.

It is greatly appreciated, and we wish them a Happy New Year.

Yours Sincerely Sylvia Bond

M. S. Lally
Gas Boiler Service
01235 848592 0796 7015 065
Servicing and Repairs
Systems Installed
Boiler changes
Systems Power Flushed

85 Milton Road, Sutton Courtenay, OX14 4BX

Friday Club - Extra

Dear Sir, Whitehorns Way

I would personally like to make a special "Thank You" to Beryl & Sylvia for the hard work they did on our Christmas party, and to the guest also.

We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves!

Also to Sally Dixon, Sue and Brenda for the lovely meal, also to Betty and John Biddle for looking after me, and transport for me.

"Happy New Year to all" Bert Cole

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

PARISH COUNCIL (Dec 7th)

The end of the old year and start of the new is traditionally a time for review and reflection, and also for new beginnings. So it has been with the PC because, as reported last month, our clerk, Marie Sellwood, decided to resign her post, and Jenny Pooley has already paid tribute to Marie's considerable contribution to the work of the PC over the last five years. A small presentation was made to Marie at this, her last meeting, in recognition of her hard work and dedication. She leaves with our grateful thanks, and we extend a **warm welcome to our new clerk, Kathryn Smyth**, who was also present at the meeting.

At the same time, Jenny herself, who continues to be an industrious member of the PC, has decided that it was time for someone else to take on the job of writing the monthly report, hence the change of reporter. Needless to say, **our thanks are owed to Jenny as well**, for keeping us all informed of the PC's activities over the past months and years.

Two Trustees of the **Drayton Almshouses**, Mrs Camilla King and Mrs Margaret Watts, attended the meeting to explain how the almshouses are operated; who is eligible to apply for one, and what criteria are applied. Mrs King said that the Almshouse Trust is responsible to the Almshouses Association and has to work to charity law. She stated that although in the past, anyone applying for one of the almshouses had to be a Drayton resident, **this requirement has now been relaxed**, although there should still be a clear connection with the village (for example, the applicant has a close relative living in Drayton).

Applicants must be over the age of 60 and able to live independently, as there is no warden. There is also a limit on the amount of savings an applicant can have. The trust uses the current government guidelines for this, setting a ceiling of £16,500, and for the sake of fairness, the financial criteria are strictly applied. Potential residents have to complete an 11-page application form and be interviewed by the trust, preferably with their next of kin present at the meeting. There are 6 almshouses in Drayton, all in good decorative order, and at the time of writing, five were occupied, with **one vacancy**. It has not always been easy to find applicants, so **anyone interested is encouraged to contact the trust for further information.** →>>>

A.L.VICKERY & SON

5, THE GREEN, DRAYTON, OX14 4JA

01235 531497

COOKSHOP - HOUSEWARES - DIY

ELECTRICAL TOOLS - GARDENING

LOCKSMITHS - KEYS CUT WHILE YOU WAIT

OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY, 9 to 5.30

CREDIT CARDS TAKEN

Park your car outside the Store

NOW STOCKING HOOVER BAGS AND PRE-PACKED COAL

"The Computer Lady"

Internet, email/Outlook, broadband, security, virus/spyware/adware removal, wired and wireless networking, training, PC basics

All types of computer problems and maintenance covered

Call Tracey Talbot on 07811 550233

email: thecomputerlady@tiscali.co.uk

DRAYTON YOUTH CENTRE CHARITY

Applications are invited from any Youth Organisation in Drayton wishing to **apply for financial assistance** from the above charity. To request an application form please send an email to :-

karen.tinson1@ntlworld.com or phone 01235 531596.

Applications must be received by 31st March 2010.

All applications will be considered at the Charity's meeting to be held in April (date to be confirmed).

Dog sitter wanted

Are you a dog owner? Would you be interested in looking after our six month old Westie puppy Harry for a few hours each week whilst I return to part time work?

Harry is a lovely natured dog, very sociable,

and loves the company of other dogs.

Hours and rate of pay to be negotiated.

**For a further chat, please phone Louise Feltham
on (01235) 526733**

(and Meeting Jan 4th) The Parish Council supports a wide range of village activities, but the functions it is required to perform under the law are relatively few. One of these statutory responsibilities is a duty to **maintain the parish burial ground**, and in the past year, as visitors to the burial ground will know, this has included the carrying out of topple testing on headstones and monuments. The PC has done its best to apply a 'light touch' where a need for safety measures has been identified, but this issue remains, for the time being, ongoing.

In recent months however, another matter has been highlighted, concerning the type, and number, of monuments which might be suitable in the parish burial ground. The PC believes that the right to place a monument on a grave should be limited, essentially, to the provision of a single headstone or tablet. This does not preclude individuality as designs vary widely, and people are free to write their own inscriptions. Unfortunately, the information presently available to relatives, though clear (in the PC's view) in intent, turns out not to be clear in expression, which has led to misunderstandings, and at least one application which falls outside the current parameters.

Obviously this is an extremely sensitive subject and some may well ask why any restriction is needed. There is certainly a need to clarify the options as explained to relatives, and this will be addressed at the next PC meeting. With further discussion then, and as space is limited for the present, I hope to outline the reasons for having a burial ground 'policy' in the next report.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 1st February 2010 at 7.30pm in the Caudwell Day Centre, as always open to all.

Richard Williams

Just Grass

Weekly / Fortnightly
Lawn Mowing Service

Tel: 01235 553468 Mob: 07921 102100

General Garden Maintenance

Hedge Cutting - Tree Work

Julian Cook. 43 Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton

Classroom updates ...

Robins' topic for this term is 'all creatures great and small'. We are starting with polar creatures many of whom would have been at home in Drayton in the snowy weather at the beginning of January.

Ravens will be looking at toys now and in days gone by. What toys did our parent and grandparents play with? **Has anyone got any old toys** they would like to show us?

Kingfishers' topic this term is Africa. The children have made a very good start on this topic over the Christmas holidays producing a huge variety of work such as internet searches, 3D maps, pictures, posters, scrapbooks etc. Impressive efforts and creativity!

Eagles are learning about pirates this term. They will hopefully have a trip to see HMS Victory. Pirate fact - the story of Robinson Crusoe is based on real life pirate Alexander Selkirk who was marooned on Juan Fernandez (an island 400 miles west of the Chilean coast) in 1705 and rescued in 1709. →>>



Tonks Brothers Funeral Directors

158 Ock Street, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 5DL

Telephone: 01235 539444



24 Hour personal service
Dedicated chapel of rest
Pre-paid funeral plans available
Memorials Supplied



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans

NEWINGTON NURSERIES

Specialists in the unusual

Breathe new life into your garden!

GARDEN DESIGN & LANDSCAPING by CHELSEA GOLD MEDALISTS

Show gardens to wander through

Fabulous semi-mature & mature plants for sale
Fantastic display of orchids & houseplants throughout the year
Unusual garden artefacts and stoneware available
'Coffee-on-the-go'

'A haven for plant lovers' on the A329, Newington, Nr Stadhampton, OX10 7AW

Tel 01865 400533 ~ www.newington-nurseries.co.uk ~ Closed on Mondays except Bank Holidays

BENTON & BRYAN BUILDERS

For all types of building work from a reliable local company

Kitchens & Bathroom	Extensions
Carpentry	Alterations
Decorating	Roofing
Plastering	Brickwork

Tel: 01235 832513 Mobile: 07905386150
Email: bentonandbryan@hotmail.co.uk

The Red Lion

Glenn & Janet welcome you
Come and try our delicious home made food.

Enjoy dining in traditional pub surroundings or, weather permitting, in our beautiful garden, complete with undercover patio dining area and children's play area.
Serving lunch Monday - Saturday 11.30am - 2.00pm
And evening meals Monday - Friday 6pm - 8pm

Senior Citizen Menu
Available lunchtime & evening
One Course £4.95 or Two Courses £5.95
En-suite Bed & Breakfast Rooms available, call for details

For party bookings or enquiries
Phone 01235 531457

The Red Lion

School news ... As always we had a very busy Christmas period. The Christmas Fair raised just under £1000 so a big thank you to all those who put in lots of hard work, came along and helped, or just came and spent money! The children enjoyed their school party, we had a carol service and two very successful school productions - well done to all the children and staff!

Our new year started slowly with the children enjoying the snow and a few extra days off school. **Welcome** to our new staff; Julia Cutting our admin officer, Miss Bowerman who will be teaching Robins and Mr Lambert who is now full time with Eagles class. We hope you enjoy your time at Drayton school.

After-school clubs are now underway once again. Thanks to Mrs Goh for taking over the school choir. We are hoping to offer some taster sessions for new clubs to include golf, fencing, cheerleading and street dancing.

We are looking at possible links with a school in France which could provide interesting opportunities for the children. Watch out for more news on this in coming months.

Drayton school is taking part in the 'Flora Cooking Equipment for Schools' promotion. **You can collect tokens from special packs of Flora** and follow the instructions to register tokens on-line. **Alternatively you can hand tokens in to school.** Please help if you can - we have made good use of cooking equipment from this scheme in the past and every token helps!

A new opportunity - the school are looking for a lunchtime supervisory assistant to work 12pm - 1pm five days per week. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

Finally, please remember to make sure your children come into school suitably dressed for the weather and that coats, boots, etc are labelled with your child's name.

Love Your Lawn

Green Thumb's series of 4 pre-scheduled annual lawn treatments will get your lawn into perfect condition.

- Pay as You Go service - no contract to sign
- Start any time of year
- Our service costs less than DIY
- Fully trained and informed staff
- Professional feeds not available at garden centres



Call for a free, no obligation, lawn analysis and quotation: **01235 835221**

Even More of YOUR LETTERS

Boulevard Swing

Dear Sir,

So, did you miss it again?! Well, if you did, you missed another evening of great music by Brian Thompson and 'BOULEVARD SWING' in the Village Hall on December 5th.

The programme included many great standard songs such as 'Take the A Train' and 'A Nightingale sang in Berkeley Square' etc; also many requests from the audience. My own request was for that lovely song 'That Rainy Day' which was played by Steve on trombone. This tune seems to have been written especially for the trombone (**)- thanks.

There were also many other great solos by the other members of this very talented group of musicians and their (lady) vocalist.

Another plus for the evening was that it was in aid of a very worthwhile charity, 'Abingdon Bridge Young Peoples Centre'. Which of course means a lot of work for a lot of people to run the centre, none more than Derek Pooley, who incidentally was M/C for the evening.

Yes, it was a good night.

Nick Carter

(** Ed's note :- Here's That Rainy Day was originally written by Jimmy Van Heusen, and gets performed on a variety of instruments, and in varying arrangements, but often brass. It appears on the CD 'ten' by acclaimed all-female trombone quartet 'Bones Apart', who are British but perform all over the world).



employmentlawplus

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

Contracts, Compromise agreements, Dismissals,
Discrimination, Employment Tribunals, Redundancy

Regulated by the Law Society

Member of the Employment Lawyers Network

Call Jill Kelly 01235 861919

www.employmentlawplus.com

Whitehorns Way - Cat

Dear Sir,

Whitehorns Way

Calling cat-lovers in the area, who might perhaps be offering food and /or occasional lodging to a large ginger cat?

I say ginger, he has ginger stripes, and in America would probably be called an 'Orange Tabby'; and he is large, a rotund body with a rather short stubby tail.

This is our cat, and is supposed, according to our vet, to be losing some weight; like us, overweight in cats doesn't tend to add years to a lifespan. We think he may have been short of rations for a while either just before, or when he was a rescue cat, and is making up for lost time! He answers to almost anything, but especially the sound of a fridge door opening!

Despite smaller portions, and reduced calorie this-and-that, he keeps expanding, (without medical cause other than greed). We'd love to hear if anyone has been responding to his wheedling (he's an expert cadger) – it could of course be several benefactors. OR, if you have cat and cat-flap, is your pet getting thinner?

Thanks

Tony Holmes (531180)

SCIENCE IN A NEW LIGHT

'Science in a new light', a temporary exhibition at the North Wall Arts Centre, brings together the work of local artists and community groups inspired by research and architecture at the Diamond Light Source, the national synchrotron facility, near Harwell.

The exhibition features stunning textiles, photography, and sculptures using reclaimed materials.

North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Summertown OX2 7NN
January 11th to 29th, 11 am. to 4 pm, **Admission -- FREE**

ED VAIZEY - Your Local MP

The New Year is a good chance to look at what the issues our local area will be facing in months to come.

There are still some major infrastructure issues facing the local area. The reservoir public enquiry is due to start in the Spring. Neither the district council nor local pressure groups have the resources to take on Thames Water, and I have asked the Government to provide funds for this. Personally, I think the reservoir is less likely to happen, mainly because Thames Water does not have the resources currently to build it. But I also think that the alternative options seem more and more viable.

The other issue is the incinerator, near Didcot. This has been on the back burner (Ed: nicely phrased!) since the County Council turned down the planning application, but it remains an issue that needs to be monitored very closely.

Then there is housing. The development of 2,500 houses in Grove is back on, as property developers emerge from the credit crunch. We now hear that Wantage will be the site for 1500 homes, making a total of 4,000 for the area. I do not think Wantage and Grove can take that much development, even if it's spread over nearly two decades. It means growth of almost 50%.

Didcot will also see some 3,500 houses, and there are more planned for the north of the town. And Wallingford is fighting an additional 750 houses, plus there is the constant worry of the expansion of Swindon to the east, which will affect villages around Faringdon, though I think this threat is receding.

All in all, this is huge and unprecedented development for our area. While we need new homes, we do not need them on this scale. And it is ironic that local villages, that need and want a few extra homes, are consistently turned down when they ask for them. The system is completely bonkers.

Transport is another issue that will take up my time. I am campaigning for the re-opening of Wantage Road station, and also want the improvement of Didcot station to be used as a chance to enhance the Didcot Railway Centre as a tourist attraction. I have saved some of the train service in Appleford, and continue to represent commuters worried about high rail fares and car park charges.

Then there are numerous local issues, such as the future of Wantage cinema, which I will continue to be involved in, as well as issues specific to individual constituents, such as benefit and child support payments, housing and health waiting lists and numerous other matters.

If you need to get in touch with me, telephone 020 7219 6350, write to me, c/o House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or you can e-mail me on vaizeye@parliament.uk; the Website is www.vaizey.com with up to date news and surgery details (no need to book an appointment - times are from 5.30 pm to 7pm unless stated). Next surgeries:- **Feb 5th – Wantage Civic Hall & Feb 26th - Didcot, King Alfred Drive Community Centre**

GARDENING TIME

Winter Blooms using Hellebores

Our gardens are probably looking a little sleepy at this time of year so how about injecting a little brightness and beauty with some eye-catching Hellebores? Appearing to strike through the surface of the ground when all else is dormant, Hellebores make an arresting sight.

Their beautiful flowers, white, cream, pink, purple or green and sometimes with lovely detailing, are a great sight during the winter. Plant in groups, ideally in threes or fives, so as to create greater impact. Even though their winter beauty provides a welcome contrast to murky skies, being evergreen, they provide structure and interest throughout the year.

Plants of the woodland margin, Hellebores are happiest where they can enjoy both sun and shade. Plant near trees in a woodland setting or in a mixed shrub border. They're tolerant of a range of soils, but prefer moist, fertile, humus-rich soils and will get off to a flying start if you improve the soil at the time of planting with leaf mould or compost.

Some classic choices for hellebores are *Helleborus niger* 'Potter's Wheel' with its large white flowers and green-eyes or *Helleborus x ballardiae* 'December Dawn' which has big white flowers (6-8cm across), flushed pink-purple. *Helleborus foetidus* (Stinking Hellebore) is called so because the leaves give off an unpleasant smell if crushed but the flowers are a fabulous green and often have the exquisite detail of being purple-margined. *Helleborus foetidus* 'Miss Jekyll' contradicts the name of 'stinking' by having lovely fragrant flowers. As a final suggestion, look out for the much loved *Helleborus hybridus* 'Peggy Ballard' with its gorgeous deep pink flowers.

These stars of the winter garden are easy to establish and require little maintenance in return for a wonderful show. =====>>>>>>

DANES/MACE STORE

Mon - Sat 5am - 8pm Sun 6am - 7pm

FOR ALL YOUR PAPERS

AND MAGAZINES,

GROCERIES, FROZEN FOODS,

CARDS, OFF LICENCE and

SAVOURY SNACKS.

LINK CASH MACHINE AVAILABLE

LOTTERY TICKETS

In Store Bakery and

Freshly cut sandwiches

MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS TAKEN

TEL: 01235 554813

Fax No: 01235 531217

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).



'All the Bells are Ringing'

Centenary Service for Rev Francis E. Robinson

Vicar of Drayton 1878 to 1908 (details page 4)

**10 am Sunday 21st February
at St Peter's church**

With Drayton bell ringers & Wallingford handbell ringers

Plus, did you know?

Helleborus has a rich if shady history as a 'medicinal' plant. The ancient Greeks apparently used it as an early chemical weapon. Scholars discovered that they used parts of the plant to poison the wells of their enemies. It often appears naturalised around the ruins of mediaeval European monasteries also. One interpretation of this is that the monks used it as a herbal treatment for ailments. According to English folklore, crushed hellebore leaves were used as a treatment for intestinal worms in country districts. The dosage had to be correctly administered as the leaves are known to contain alkaloids and other chemicals that could lead to poisoning (think of the Greeks). *Helleborus* was also used in the Middle Ages to ward off evil influences thought to be lurking in the house. In contrast, *Helleborus* was said to be used in witchcraft to summon undesirable spirits.

Finally, don't forget about the birds. You may have recently read the RSPB's report indicating that this recent cold, snowy snap will have a detrimental impact on our bird population. Frosty nights and/or long spells of rain cause birds to lose their condition. If you've been feeding them, make sure that you keep feeders clean and full. If you haven't, why not invest in some modern, hygienic bird feeders? You'll be helping populations of both local and over-wintering birds with the bonus of getting to enjoy the fun of bird table politics - so much more entertaining than the human kind.

Newington Nurseries, nr Stadhampton, Oxon, OX10 7AW
(01865 400533) www.newington-nurseries.co.uk



Total Body Conditioning



We are a small, friendly team with high standards
Committed to treating YOU as an Individual
Tailoring a programme for YOUR NEEDS
Well-equipped gym • Power Plate® • Pilates Matwork
• Yoga • Harmony Beauty and Holistic Therapies •
GB Sports Therapy

Millbrook House, High Street, Milton, Abingdon OX14 4EL
01235 863440
www.totalbodyconditioning.co.uk

NOTICE BOARD

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk) Kathryn Smyth (meeting see page 9);
District (VoWH) Richard Webber (534001);
& Oxfordshire County Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS

Abuse is treating people in a way that makes them feel frightened or unhappy, harms, hurts or exploits them. It can happen anywhere.

Joan is 82 and lives on her own. Two men visited her and said that because of the recent frost the path to her door needed repairing, failing which she could be sued. She was frightened and agreed that she would withdraw £1,000 and they would come back the next day to repair the path. Fortunately her neighbour had seen the men and was worried. She went round to see Joan, and together they contacted the Oxfordshire Trading Standards Team, who were able to intervene and safeguard her.

Some adults are particularly vulnerable to being hurt or abused because they have a disability, illness, or impairment and need help and support.

Bill has a learning disability. He gets the bus into town, where he has a part-time job. At the bus stop he was often bullied by students from a local school. The bus driver was concerned and contacted Oxfordshire Social & Community Services, who were able to change Bill's work times, so that he could get a different bus. They were also able to work with the young people involved, who apologized for what they had done. Bill felt much better, since he had been able to deal with the problem.

Abuse is not always deliberate. It sometimes happens that people are trying to do their best but feel stressed.

Margaret and John are both in their 90s. Amy, their daughter, looks after them. It's hard work. Amy has to get up most nights, because her father is incontinent. One day after a particularly bad night Margaret hit out at Amy while Amy was trying to bath her. It was the last straw for Amy, and she slapped her mother back. She was distraught. She loves her parents dearly but felt she could not carry on. She contacted her local carers' centre, who helped her with caring for her parents, getting time for herself and introducing her to other carers.

Details of all the organizations mentioned above can be found on the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board website: www.safefromharm.org.uk If you are worried about a vulnerable person and don't know where else to go, you can contact the Oxfordshire Social & Community Services:- 0845 0507 666; out-of-hours emergency 0800 833408.

Abuse is often a crime. If you think a crime has been committed, then contact Thames Valley Police: 0845 850 5505. In an emergency dial 999.

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

A very warm welcome to Colin and Christine West who have recently moved into Sutton Wick Lane.

They have come from Rickmansworth with their dog, Gipsy and their horse, Zero.

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.

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 Feb 2nd, and Mar 2nd. If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

NEW BLOOD REQUIRED Tuesday Feb 9th at the village hall, the mobile blood unit will be attending, times :- from 1.30 pm to 3.30, and also from 4.15pm to 7.30, to allow people coming home to get there. Most people can give blood, apart from obvious restrictions; IF you're unsure if you can donate, please see the website (www.blood.co.uk), or call the 24 hour Donor Helpline on **0300 123 23 23**.

LISTINGS

Art & Artists of Abingdon Historical & Contemporary, Abingdon Museum, until May, 10.30 to 4pm, FREE admission.

Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock until March 28th 'In the footsteps of Henry Taunt' (historical and contemporary photos of the Thames), also a selection of fine oil paintings from around the county, 10am to 5pm, Sun 2 to 5 (closed Mons) Free admission.

Community Safety:- purse anti-theft bells available, free of charge, from the front desk of Abingdon Police Station, and the VoWH Local Service Point in Abingdon (Abbey House) – but hurry, stocks are limited.

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 the nearest house.

Thanks to Derek Pooley for this recent shot of Drayton's heavy snowfall (Dr Bette Pembridge, in explorer mode!).



DRAYTON DIARIES

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY

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 or call the above number

Mon	1	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (p9)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
Sat	6		Private Function	
Sun	7		Bowls (all day)	
Tues	9		Blood Clinic	
Fri	12		Chronicle Adverts DEADLINE (p2)	
Sat	13	8.00pm	Valentine's Dance/Disco (p1 & 7)	
Mon	15	5.15pm	CHRONICLE DEADLINE	<i>Vickery's</i>
Wed	17		Players set-up & shows (p1) until 20th	
Sun	21	10.00am	Bellringing Celebration (p4)	<i>Church</i>
Sun	28	2.00pm	Beetle Drive (p6)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>

PROFESSIONAL GARDEN SERVICES

Stephen R Matthews

133 Kynaston Road Didcot

Oxfordshire OX11 8HB

Tel: **01235 813 598**

Mobile: **07796 532356**

All aspects of work undertaken, including:

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



Tranquil Beauty

Professional Beauty Therapy
in a Relaxing Environment

Sara Warwick VTCT

07966 844409

Bio Sculpture Gel Nails

Facials - Massage - Manicures - Pedicures

Waxing - Eye Treatments - Body Treatments

Gift Vouchers Available

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

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



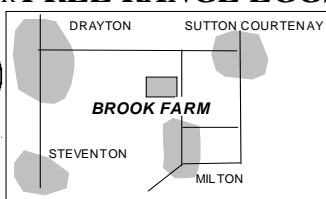
Brook Farm, Milton Road

OPENING HOURS

Mon to Sat - 9.00am to 1.00pm Except Friday 9.00am to 6.00pm

FREE RANGE EGGS, & POTATOES (if available)

Our own lamb available May to December



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>
6.30 pm	Youth Zone (to 7.30 except Bank Hols)	
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys/ girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Table Tennis (Junior coaching - 90 mins)	<i>School</i>
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>
7.45 pm	Drayton Drop-In (to 8.45, except Bank Hols)	
8.00 pm	Table Tennis (Senior practice + playing 2 hrs)	<i>School</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	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
11.20 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green Car Pk</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	
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	
7.30 pm	Table Tennis - League	<i>School</i>

FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.00 pm	Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.00pm	Choir Practice (alt Fridays - page 4)	<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>
6.00 pm	Evening Service	<i>Baptist Church</i>

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)

FEBRUARY Dates Abingdon (now 3rd FRIDAY) - 19th
Didcot (2nd Sat) - 13th Newbury (1st & 3rd Sun) - 7th / 21st
TVFM news - ring **01235 227266** - website Tvfm.org.uk
Usually the markets run from about 8.30 am until lunchtime,
Abingdon's market (Didcot too), has an excellent set of stalls, several organic meat suppliers, a fishmonger & greengrocers (remember them?!), and a great cake-maker!