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# **DRAYTON CHRONICLE**

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes Volume 33 No. 9 October 2010

## L'ENTENTE MOST CORDIALE

Hopefully most of you will by now recognise the name of our twin town in France - in the famous wine-growing region of the Médoc. Twenty two members of the twinning group have just returned from our biennial visit as, this year, it was our turn to be hosted by <u>Lesparre</u>.

For many of us the day we arrived was the first warm day for some weeks (nb 'warm' = 'blooming hot'!) so, by the time we had been greeted by our hosts, introduced newcomers and embraced old friends, we were all wilting a little - nothing, however, that a shower, and then dinner with our hosts couldn't put right!



There is not the space here to describe in detail all the activities of the visit, but I shall try to give you a flavour of the days so that those of you who did not come this time might want to next time.

On the first day a visit around the second world war fortifications (all still in existence), built by the Germans along the Médoc coastline, gave us an insight into how the French endured the occupation. It was made all the more significant when one of our hosts told us that his father had been drafted into forced labour. After wading around the sand dunes and bunkers, a picnic lunch Lesparre style (a mini banquet) under the pine trees was very welcome. The evening was spent at a delightful concert by the Lesparre choir, which included one of our hosts, in a nearby village church.

The most blisteringly hot day turned out to be the one chosen by our hosts to teach us all some archery. The morning was spent learning and the afternoon in competition - French vs English - all accompanied by the inevitable references to the ancient history of Aquitaine. There were *some* bright stars amongst the English, our men's team beat the French men and, although their women's team won, our individual women archers were very close runners up. The day's rivalries were set aside at a soirée in which our French friends commemorated the tenth anniversary of the Twinning with a splendid dinner, a memorable display of old French dancing in regional costume and a spectacular anniversary cake with fireworks on top.

After all that excitement the 'free' day with our individual host families was quite welcome. Many of us graduated to the massive popular market at nearby Montalivet, where one could (many did) sample local foodstuffs and drink. The rest of the market was a wonderful mix of goods from all over France and other parts of the world. As if this was not enough some people went on to a 'vide grenier', which, literally translated, means 'empty the attic'.

Effectively it was a car boot sale but with French stuff to sell. Much more interesting than English junk!



The evening was spent all together having dinner and playing a 'typical médocain activity' which turned out to be......Bingo. Some of us won prizes amidst much hilarity.

On our last full day we were ferried across the Gironde estuary to the troglodyte dwellings in the cliffs, where, with a personal audio-guide, we were treated to a tour of rooms, bars, shops and a hotel all built into the caves excavated into the cliffs. As we sailed along the coast on our return, we were able to see a number of other caves clearly still in use in a similar way. Our last evening was spent in the salle de fêtes, the equivalent of our village hall, having a meal followed by an evening sharing our pictures of the visit. One of the young French twinners brought her guitar and sang, sometimes people joined in, sometimes we just listened; it was a very pleasant informal final evening.

We very much appreciated the hard work put in by our hosts to make the visit a success - we were entertained, we were educated, we were, in the famously funny words of Gerard Hoffnung, "well fed up and agreeably drunk" and, perhaps most importantly, we were among friends.

<u>Footnote</u>:- As you know, greeting in France consists of kissing on each cheek when one meets. This has caught on amongst the twinners too. With this visit having twenty two visitors and twenty two hosts greeting and au-revoiring each day for five days, that's a lot of kisses!!

**Twinning is for anyone in the village**; if reading this has made you feel that **you would like to join us** in hosting visitors from France in 2011, and/or visiting Lesparre the following year, please contact Michael Bell (531388), Stephen Fearnley (author of the report - 531347), or Bob Matthews (531204).

## DRAYTON WIT & WISDOM QUIZ

(proceeds going to Help For Heros)

Friday 12th November 2010



Teams of four (£5 per person)
Ploughman's Supper included
Drayton Hall



Doors open 7 for 7.30pm

Tickets available from Brenda Malin 36 High St. Or Ann Webb 01235 531418

## **COMING CHRONICLES**

The NOVEMBER Chronicle will be available for distribution to Area Agents on Friday, October 29th, from Helen Brasington (534045), 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, October 18th 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 Oct 15th, 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.

The box is checked a little before the deadline. It is a great help if items can be left 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 :-

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. We do occasionally have emails sent that just don't arrive!

- 2. An email attachment, in WORD please.
- 3. A good, black typescript on white A4 paper or smaller. Or perhaps hand-written, either way, NAMES in CAPITALS please!
  - 4. IF in any doubt, ASK the EDITOR!

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:-
December	15 Nov	26 Nov
Jan/Feb	17 Jan	28 Jan

#### ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12<sup>th</sup> page)

---- Number of Inserts -

Advertiser Category 3 12 6 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

Letters to the Editor You may request that your name & address are not shown; but we MUST have the details, and phone number.

## CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon. Promoter

#### RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER LOTTERY

		_
Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	G. Akers, 4 Marcham Road	Karen Jackson
£20	I. Oram, 6 Eastway M.H.P.	Teresa Burnage
£15	A. Dewar, 3 Cheers Farm, High St	Margaret Long
£10	Mr. Wilkes, 26, Corneville Road	Gerald Redman
£10	Mr. Evans, 117 Abingdon Road	Carol Arnold
£10	Mr. Hudson, 21 Corneville Road	Gerald Redman
£10	D. Terrart, 9 Newman Lane	Jean Oliver
£10	Mr. McDaid, Charles Lodge, S'n Wick	B. Dawson
£10	P. Biddle, 11 Sutton Wick Lane	B. Dawson
£10	Mrs. R. Strong, 9 Caudwell Close	Barbara Purbrick
Winning tights from a total of 2251 and arrow drawn by march and		

Winning tickets, from a total of 2251 sold, were drawn by members of the Art Group. We do need more Agents - could YOU help?

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.

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## **ALL AROUND**

## **Drayton 1st Brownies**

## **Ruth Hudson**

Welcome back everyone after the summer holidays. Autumn term is upon us and we have lots of exciting challenges to look forward to. In September, the girls have been working towards their Artist Badge. Pebble painting, decorating note books, creating wrapping paper designs, marbling ink pictures and producing one piece of art work ready for an Art Competition on October 6th.

Another challenge is the Cook's Badge, the girls have to plan, prepare and serve a breakfast, remembering basic food hygiene and safety in the kitchen.

We have been looking at Autumn as a season, planting Bluebell bulbs on the Millennium Green, tasting honey and finding out about bees.

We have a Pamper Evening planned which includes making healthy smoothies to taste, plus we are celebrating National Apple Day with apple bobbing and munching on toffee apples.

Finally, goodbye and good luck to Millie, Ling and Olivia who have left Brownies to join Guides.

**Meetings are held** at Drayton Village Hall, on Wednesdays during school term from 6.15 - 7.45, meetings are open to all girls aged between 7 - 10 years old. Further details are available from:

Ruth Hudson (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111 Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl) on 01235 528502 Paula Harper (Friendly Owl) on 01235 534166

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## DRAYTON W.I. Ann Webb

As winter draws ever closer we were taken on a journey with a local gentleman as he recounted his Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers life as masters of the Cutty Sark. The name Cutty Sark is taken from the poem Tam O' Shanter and refers to the long flowing gown worn by the witch, hence the voluptuous figure head of the clipper. She was built by a Scottish business man in 1869 and weighed 1,000 tons, at a cost of £16,000. She carried an acre of canvas and sailed at 17 knots or 20 MPH. Manned by a crew of 24 men she was the fastest sea going vessel of her time. When her sea-going life ended she was brought back from Portugal and restored. The next time she was restored resulted in a disastrous fire and is now on its way to full restoration again.

Our next meeting is on Oct 14th and the subject is Russian Fairy Tales.

Dates for your diary:-

Nov 12th, <u>Wit and Wisdom</u>. Our ever popular quiz night, <u>get a team together</u> and join us for a fun evening (see ad on page 1).

Dec 4th Our 90th birthday celebration, **Please contact us if you were ever a member** and would like to join us.

# M. S. Lally

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## DRAYTON WIVES Pam Lacey

We held our annual Bring and Share Lunch in the Village Hall on 25 August when 32 members brought along and enjoyed a wonderful spread of salads, quiches etc. followed by some very scrumptious desserts and cakes. The lunch was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

#### Dates for your Diary in October:-

Weds 6th VISIT Aston Pottery, Demo (paint your own)
Monday 11th COFFEE Caudwell DC (please NOTE new venue)
Monday 18th WHIST David Hale

Weds 27th MEETING Anne Gould – History of Abingdon, Pt 2

#### OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

**Methodist Chapel** Sunday Service: 10.30 am High Street, Milton

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

## ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge Interregnum
Minister in training Revd Rosie Bruce
Churchwardens Mrs Sue Harris

Mrs Sue Harris 848361 Mrs Val Cross 535183

525284

Choir DirectorJo BurnOrganistRobert Legg

## **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 Frid	lays)Church Room

#### **CALENDAR for OCTOBER**

Sat	2nd 10.00 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods (unti	1 11 am)
Sun	3rd 11.15 am	Sale of Fair Trade goods (unti	1 11.45 am)
Tues	5th 3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sun	17th 10.00am	HARVEST FESTIVAL	

#### **PARISH REGISTER**

Wedding Sept 4th Christopher Ronald Neil Crowshaw

& Amy Elizabeth Crane

**Burial** Sept 11th June Patricia Allen

of Ashes

## **YOU STAY - WE PRAY (October)**

3rd to 9th :- Steventon Rd, Eastway, Eastway MHP.

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17th to 30th :- Abingdon Rd, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Havwards Rd.



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## **Letter from St Peter's Church**

Dear Friends.

This month it is the turn of the <u>Discipleship Group</u> to write the Church letter. We were formed as part of the Ministry Team some years ago. Although we are very small group (myself as chairman, Val Cross, Victoria Griffiths and Rosie Bruce), we do have an important role to play in the life of St Peter's.

The call to discipleship lay at the heart of Jesus' ministry (Mark 1:14-18) "Come follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men". While we may not go out specifically to recruit people into Church our activities are designed to promote the work of the Church both within the actual building and in the wider community. In this way we hope to show that being a Christian is a good thing with benefits for everyone. To this end we have been involved in a number of initiatives.

For some time, Val and Victoria have been selling Fair Trade goods in Church once a month. They have also given talks to many local organisations e.g. Drayton Wives, Young Farmers etc. This has had a two-fold affect in that they have promoted Fair Trade goods and the principles underlining their sale but has also provided outreach into the community.

We are involved in the training and support of 3 Junior leaders within St Peter's. These young people now help at the regular workshops which are held throughout the year and it is hoped that they will take a bigger role in our services at St Peter's, particularly the 'Praise at Ten' services which are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

Another initiative was a special afternoon session for our older parishioners and their friends. Rev Michael Samms and his wife led the afternoon and we provided tea and cakes. Looking back over the years we seem to have provided catering for a number of events which have taken place at St Peter's!

We are all involved in fund raising at St Peter's, a never-ending round as our expenses each year, such as the Parish Share, (money we have to pay to the Diocese annually to provide clergy stipends, etc), repairs, maintenance of the building, etc., continue to rise. A number of different events have been organised but two of the most successful are the annual Church/School fete held at Drayton School and the Christmas Fair held in November in Church. Not only do they raise badly needed funds but again provide an opportunity to work with different people from the village.

Lastly we have been involved in a number of different courses which have been held both at St Peter's and other churches within the Damascus Group. Sometimes we have helped in the planning of these, at other times it has been our catering skills which have been called for! However, a course or a meeting will always be better if the participants have shared a meal together beforehand. A wonderful way to break the ice and get to know people.

Sue Harris (Leader - Discipleship Group)



#### LARKMEAD VETERINARY GROUP

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## (MORE) ALL AROUND

## Drayton Pre-School Playgroup Debbie Bargus

We would like to welcome everybody back to Preschool following the summer break and especially to our new children. We hope they have lots of fun and enjoy being with us.

This term has started with us allowing the children to settle back into the Preschool routine and for the new children to understand Preschool. **We do still have sessions available**, please telephone Preschool on 01235 536094 for more information or if you would like a Welcome Pack.

We would like to say a BIG thank you to lots of people for their hard work over the summer improving the environment at Preschool. Especially Paul Biddle and John Biddle for painting the outside of the building, Tony Bramley for the new gate at the bottom of the ramp, Mark Humphreys for the repairs to the border fence and gate, and Steve and Lisa Knight for the new signs that help show where we are.

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.

<u>Dates</u>: Friday 8th October - Inset Day - No Sessions

Thursday 21st October – End of Term One Friday 22nd October - Inset Day - No Sessions

Monday 1st November – Term Two starts

Friday 12th November – Tempest Photography visiting.

#### 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).

Mrs Suzy Willis
MCSP SRP AACP

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## Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

The club has recommenced after the summer break. With the colder nights now upon us we can once again enjoy our sport!

Our first club practice night saw an influx of new members, mainly children but also a few new adult members. The new timetable for practice seems to be working well. The first hour from 6.30 pm is for children who are new to table tennis. They receive tuition from Matt Wicks our resident Club Coach and we hope they enjoy this introduction to ping pong.

From 7.30pm our more experienced league playing youngsters attend for practice, they will also benefit from Matt's coaching. They can stay until 9.00pm so get the chance to play some of our adult players from 8.30pm onwards. The adult session runs from 8.30pm and **new players are welcome to come along**. It is only £1 per session. We provide bats for those who don't have their own.

The Didcot League season started on 27th September. The 5 divisions have been re-designed with 10 teams in divisions 1 to 4 and 8 teams in division 5. As a result we have 1 team in the top Division – Drayton A being the current League Champions, 3 teams in Division 2, one each in Divisions 3 & 4 and two in Division 5. Our new Drayton H team is mostly made up of the Cadet players that joined last season.

In total we have 43 players signed up for our 8 league teams. This makes Drayton Table Tennis Club the biggest in the Didcot League. In addition we have a number of adults and children who do not play league table tennis but just enjoy playing socially.

This is a good achievement for our village and a tribute to the efforts of all our members in welcoming new players and encouraging the children who come along to the club.

Finally a thank you to David Mayer and all at Drayton CP School for continuing their support of our club.

If any further players are interested, experienced or new, please give us a try. Contact number is 01235 531328.



## Try a class for FREE!

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www.musicforlife.info sarah@musicforlife.info

Call Sarah Whittle on 01235 832034

Please note that, although the Chronicle welcomes submissions on a variety of topics, the Editor reserves the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter or supplied text.

## **BAPTIST CHURCH**

#### REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

Presently only one morning service per month: 11.15 am

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

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

#### The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

The branch was formed on Nov 22nd 1927 with six officers but no club or regular venue. However the branch has survived over almost 90 years - due to the dedication of a few personnel who were determined to keep the Legion motto of "Service Not Self" and show the serving and ex-service personnel that they could rely on the help and support they so richly deserved.

During the second war Gilbert Joyce was at the helm serving as local Poppy Appeal Organiser as well as being branch President he dedicated most of his spare time in keeping the branch in order. On his retirement we had new officers and a meeting place at the North Star, which hosted us for many years, then the Lantern Restaurant kindly accomodated us for meetings and fundraising events. Due to their retirement we now meet at the Fox Inn by kind permission of Pete to whom the branch is most grateful.

We have trained personnel to cover local welfare cases which are kept strictly confidential and all reports and requests are dealt with at County level. We are noted at County as one of their most efficient branches even though we are small in number to most, but this of course is due to the dedication of the few branch officers who give of their free time to keep the Flag flying.

Recently we have recruited our youngest member of the branch who is currently serving as Standard Bearer and Committee member showing great potential for advancement.

Although we have a dedicated team of Officers we do need vounger personnel to take over at some point so please think about joining as there are Committee vacancies to fill; I can assure you it is a very satisfying team to work alongside and be proud of.

Of course we are very prominent at Remembrancetide but we are always very active throughout the year dealing with the many cases from various conflicts. This year's Poppy Appeal will be launched in a couple of weeks so we hope you will give generously to "HELP US TO HELP THEM".

Have you made your reservation for the annual dinner on Friday Nov 19th at the Fox Inn? The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday Oct 18th at 8pm.



C14 Enterprise Centre Hawksworth Didcot

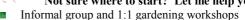
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## **CHRONICLE NEWS**

Once again I am delighted to be able to say that every house in Drayton should now be receiving a Chronicle. This is an achievement to be very proud of and it is thanks entirely to the amazing band of volunteer Chronicle agents. We have recently had some new volunteers and I would like to thank the following people:- Maria Webb and Sarah Smith who have taken over Oday Hill and Crabtree Lane, and Andrew & Susan Bax who have taken on the whole of Lyford Close.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Gerald Redman for previously covering these rounds. He continues to be the agent for Corneville Road and we are very appreciative of all he continues to offer.

*Gareth Davies (529510 - Chronicle co-ordinator)* 

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS**

#### A plethora of greetings and welcomes this month!

Firstly, a very warm welcome to a number of new-comers to the High Street:- Mr. A. Woodley, Mr. Terry Alford and last but no means least Kathryn and Phil Turner and their children, Henry, Edward and Annabel.

Then we have two new families moved into Abingdon Road -James, Karen, Daniel and Ray Nicholson, who are from Liverpool, and Helen, Chris, Lewis and Olivia Day who have moved from Abingdon. A warm welcome to both families.

Not forgetting Maria and Alistair Grundy who have moved from Southampton, and Neil and Shona Ware who have also moved into Church Lane, with their little dog 'Jack'.

And finally we warmly welcome Mr and Mrs Beugin, Baptiste and Gregoire, to Newman Lane and hope that they will be very happy here in Drayton.

## FORTHCOMING Police 'Surgery' :-

Friday Oct 1st, 6pm to 7pm, Sandra Syphas @ Police office, High St., Sutton Courtenay. And - for more information about your local neighbourhood team, contact 0845 8 505 505

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

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## **YOUR LETTERS**

#### **The Preschool Group**

Dear Sir,

(via email)

Unless you are a parent of a toddler, you are not likely to know much about what goes on at Drayton's own Preschool, found within the grounds of the primary school in Hilliat Fields. An easy assumption to make (indeed, an assumption I myself was guilty of) was that it was a casual playgroup. This couldn't be further from the truth. As an educational setting for children between the ages of 2.5 to 5, the Preschool has to work within an educational framework set out by the government and enforced through OFSTED. This means that, although a lot of play is involved and the children have a lot of fun, it has to be structured and with a purpose. This requires trained professionals, and the Preschool is staffed by a dedicated team of individuals, who work tirelessly to prepare the children for their eventual move to primary school.

Another misconception is that, because of our location, we are connected to the primary school and therefore get standard government funding. Actually, the Preschool is a separate entity to the school and is a charity organisation. Economically, it operates through a system of grants, fees and fundraising, and is overseen by a committee of volunteers drawn (primarily) from the parents.

Inevitably this means that money and resources are always in short supply and we are constantly in need of people who would be willing to donate their time and/or services to help this community project.

So really this is a plea to you, the good people of Drayton, to get involved! The children served here are future village residents, so it is an opportunity to have a part in their development. We need, for instance, people who would be willing to undertake small maintenance jobs or tend to the garden, but there are so many other things needed that offers of any type of service would be gratefully received. If you feel you have something to give, or would like to know more about the Preschool and its operation, please contact me on 554 257, or email <a href="mailto:nickrougen@gmail.com">nickrougen@gmail.com</a>.

And if you are a parent with a child entering the age range mentioned above, we have plenty of places available for the forthcoming term. Again, please drop me a line.

Sincerely

Andrew Watts (Chair, Drayton Preschool)

## **Auction of Promises**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2010 6.30 for 7pm

To be held at Drayton School

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#### **Vandalism**

Dear Sir,

2 High Street

I feel compelled to write about the state of the children's play park. On Sunday afternoon. Sept 5th, I and my daughter took my 2 year old grandson to this park to enjoy the swings etc.

We were horrified to find it covered in empty lager cans, fast food boxes, cigarette butts, and sanitary wear. This in spite of two rubbish bins in the close vicinity.

In order not to disappoint the child we were obliged to clear the majority of this mess up ourselves and put it in the rubbish bins.

This behaviour is quite disgusting and we assume must be caused by some of the youth of Drayton who should be ashamed of themselves.

Yours Sincerely

Valerie Dennis

Ed's Note:- I've included this letter, it's a valid opinion. But the assumption could be wrong (and yes, sadly it could also be right). Those of us sometimes out and about late at night (I may get back late from work, for instance) do occasionally see parked cars on the Hall car-park, well after any Hall usage has stopped for the evening. They could be from in the village, but also anywhere local, as we're quite centrally placed for Abingdon, Didcot etc.

#### WANTED

I am a German teacher living in Drayton who is looking for somebody to help me to improve my English (in exchange learn German). It could be just conversation but experience in teaching English is preferred. Somebody with experience in IELTS preparation would be perfect!

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## **MORE LETTERS**

#### **DAMASCUS Drayton Fun Day**

Dear Sir,

(via email)

I'd like to place at first just a short message on behalf of the trustees of the DAMASCUS Youth Project, thanking everyone who supported the young people both in the organisation of the event and on the day.

It is very much appreciated and we are very proud of the young people's achievements. Also thank you to all the sponsors of the event.

I hope to compile a more detailed report, together with next steps for subsequent actions, in time for the November issue.

Yours Sincerely

Rita Atkinson

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#### OOPS!

Apologies to Judy Henman, whose poem 'Festival' in the issue 2 months ago inadvertently contained an error, which altered the sense of that verse (not 'help a wealthy cause' but rather 'worthy cause'). It does however illustrate the perils of typing or scanning text, in that errors can sneak through, despite the best efforts of those involved!

# Drayton Hall Management (Ann Webb)

By the time you read this you will have noticed that the hedge along the bridleway beside the carpark will have been cut. On first glance it may look brutal, but it's a case of being cruel to be kind.

The hedge is probably 60 years old and has been left to its own devices for quite a few years. Drastic action was needed to bring it back to a controllable level. It has opened up the vista of the carpark to allow passers-by to view the building as they pass. It will also stop the dumping of rubbish under the hedge, a bike, a mesh fence, the remains of a garden chair and countless concrete blocks and other assorted rubbish was found by the hedge cutter, the fence became entangled around the cutter. This is illegal and unnecessary with the tip only yards away. The work had to be done now to allow the hedge time to heal before the cold weather sets in and the wildlife settle for the winter.

October sees the return of the Antique fairs, this is only a temporary arrangement at the moment, while the Civic Hall at Didcot is being refurbished. **Parking** will I hope not cause nearby residents any problems, but **if you do have a problem with a thoughtless visitor** please either ring the hall on 528686 and ask for it to be removed, or call in and ask for Mrs O'Meara and she will sort out your request. The same lady is willing **to value and/or buy any item** you wish to take to her at the event.

The **sad news this month** is the Oxford Blood Donors collection will cease, because attendance has fallen so far that it is no longer viable.

We have got through the summer with less damage to the building, this is down to the vigilance of the police and our regular users, but mostly from passers-by who keep a watchful eye on the building for us. We are extremely grateful to those people.

## Wooden Spoon Recipe No. 36

(from Mar 2002) by LOIS RENNELLS

Yogurt Spiced Pork (serves 4)

4 loin pork medallions, 150 ml pot natural yogurt, 1 tsp. ground coriander, 1 tsp. ground cumin, grated rind and juice of 1 lemon, 1 clove garlic (crushed), sea salt and freshly ground black pepper, 750g sweet potatoes (peeled and cut into wedges), 1 tablespoon olive oil, watercress to garnish.

Preheat the oven to 200C, gas mark 6 (adjust for fan ovens). Place the pork medallions between two sheets of cling film, and using a rolling pin or meat mallet, gently flatten to a thickness of 2 cm. This will tenderise the pork and also reduce the cooking time.

Spoon the yogurt into a large bowl and add the coriander, cumin, lemon rind and juice and garlic. Mix well and season.

Remove the cling film and add the medallions to the yogurt mixture and stir to coat. Marinade for 10 minutes.

Toss the sweet potatoes with olive oil, and sprinkle with the seasoning. Place on a baking tray and bake for 20-25 minutes or until crisp and golden.

While the sweet potatoes are cooking, preheat the grill and line the base of the grill pan with kitchen foil. Place the medallions with some of the yogurt mixture spooned over on a wire rack over the grill pan and cook for 5-6 minutes each side or until the yogurt begins to turn a golden colour and the pork is thoroughly cooked.

Garnish the medallions with watercress and serve with the sweet potato wedges and green beans.

## PARISH COUNCIL (Sept 6th)

As well as the five Parish Councillors present, the meeting was attended by several members of the public, including Ann Webb, the Village Hall manager, and PC Keith Morton from Thames Valley Police. The meeting was addressed by Stuart Goodwill, who gave a short presentation on a proposed housing development in Drayton. Stuart was representing WYG Planning & Design, part of the WYG Group, a large multidisciplinary consultancy. He explained that WYG have been instructed by Paul Caudwell to look at providing a scheme that will benefit Drayton.

The councillors saw copies of plans showing one possible location for the development, which is intended to provide new recreational facilities, for example an additional football pitch, changing rooms, and a parking area. The scheme would also provide housing, with a proportion of affordable properties (the current Vale requirement is that 1 in 3 of any new houses built should be 'affordable'). As District Councillor, Richard Webber welcomed the scheme in principle, as it had been produced by a local landowner with extensive knowledge of Drayton and its needs, and was not purely a speculative developer-led proposal. It is well established that there is a shortage of housing throughout the Vale, and Richard felt that this type of project was of the right sort of scale and scope for Drayton. As described, the scheme might also provide additional space for allotments, but it was emphasised that the plan has not been finalised, and that part of the reason for bringing the proposal to the Parish Council was to get some initial reactions, and to start a debate. **>>>** 

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>>> Two factors were immediately relevant to this. One was that, from the plans provided, it could be seen that the Caudwell family have substantial land holdings in and around the village. It was therefore acknowledged that alternative sites to the one proposed might be viable.

In addition, as the presentation placed particular store by the 'localism' agenda, and the importance of meeting local requirements, it would clearly be sensible to consult with Drayton residents, and give them opportunities to comment on the scheme, and hopefully have some actual input, in the form of suggestions for improvement or amendments. As I write, there is a forthcoming village meeting in Drayton Hall on Sunday 19th September, at 2pm, which is intended to be a forum for discussing just these kind of issues, and the proposed development would certainly form part of any wider Community Plan devised for the whole village. As explained in the September Chronicle, the Parish Council hopes that enough interested residents will attend the meeting to enable a 'steering group' to be created that will take the Plan forward. By the time this report appears, we will have a better idea of whether the project 'has legs'.

There was further discussion on the possibility of the Parish Council appointing a 'Young People's officer' to support the existing youth provision in the village. This officer would be assigned solely to Drayton, recognising that DAMASCUS must cover all 5 villages in the scheme to fulfil its brief. It was envisaged that the person appointed should liaise not just with young people but also with the older people in Drayton, the idea being to improve communication and understanding between the age-groups, but also to try and get more adult volunteers involved or assisting with local youth activities. As a first step, it was decided that one member of the Parish Council should be specifically designated the DAMASCUS rep. It is especially pleasing to record that the person so appointed is one of 2 new Parish councillors who agreed to be co-opted onto the PC this month, Naomi Broomfield. The other new councillor is Julian Fowler, and we warmly welcome both new arrivals.

As regular readers of the Chronicle will be aware, it is sometimes a struggle to maintain the numbers on the Parish Council. We now have 9 councillors but are entitled to eleven, so there are still **a couple of vacancies**. As ever, people are invited to attend any Parish Council meeting to see what goes on.

The next meeting will be on Monday October 4th, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane. *Richard Williams* 

## **Drayton School**

## Ana Gur

Welcome back to all staff and pupils after our nice long summer break. There are many exciting improvements on our return. There is a lot of new play equipment in the field and on the playground, described by one pupil as "awesome!" Inside, the hall has been redecorated and the new wall bars for PE look really smart. The kitchen has also been completely refurbished thanks to Food for Thought who run school dinners.

Please bear in mind that we are still looking to fill several school governor positions. Are you interested? It is not necessary to have a school connection to be eligible, just an interest in having an impact on children's lives. If you would like to find out more about what the role involves, please contact Mr. Mayer at school (01235 531316).

<u>Special event</u> – FODSA (Friends of Drayton School Association) are organising an Auction of Promises and other exciting items to take place on Sat Oct 16th. Guest speaker is Paul Mayhew-Archer, BBC comedy writer (Vicar of Dibley).

Tickets, priced at £2.50 (which includes a platter of bread, cheese, meats, pate etc) are available from Annette Mitchell. **All are welcome** to come along to what promises to be a fun evening. See advert on page 7 for more details. →>>



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#### Now an introduction to our classes - featuring our new one -

A big welcome to all the new reception children that have joined us in **Robins** class this September. They are settling in well with the Year 1 children who are already familiar with the classroom and together they are learning all about "Me, you and what we do" and spending their time getting to know each other.

Ravens (year 1 & 2) are learning about pirates this term. They got the topic off to a really good start with a pirate day when they all came dressed as pirates and had lots of fun activities including treasure maps, talking like pirates, walking the plank and even making some ships biscuits and pirates grog!

Another special welcome this term as we not only have a new teacher, but a whole new class. Mrs Duffy will be teaching **Red Kites** class which is our year three children. Their first topic is the Terrible Tudors and it seems Mrs Duffy is really bringing history to life by arriving in class one day as Queen Elizabeth I in full Tudor costume complete with wig!

This term our **Kingfishers class** (now years 4 & 5) will be learning all about the Aztecs. They began by collating all the facts the children had learnt over the summer as they were tasked with each finding out three Aztec facts. They are now looking at Aztec art and mosaics and have already created a fantastic display of Aztec masks. Mrs Middleton is now joined by Mrs Creber who is covering maternity leave for Mrs Goh who is enjoying time off with her new baby boy, Nathaniel.

**Eagles** (year 5 & 6) struggled to get into their classroom at the beginning of term. They finally made it through the barrier of "Warning" and "danger" signs across their door only to find a bomb had landed through the roof of their classroom! No prizes for guessing that they will be learning all about World War II this term, so it looks like Mr Lambert and his class are really working in a hombsite

Finally, **we would also like to welcome** our new Teaching Assistants that have joined us in September. We hope you enjoy your time at Drayton School.

<u>NB REMINDER:-</u> Please do <u>not</u> park in the turning circle outside school, but please <u>do</u> park your car with consideration for the residents of Hilliat Fields.

## **NOTICE BOARD**

## **YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS:**

Parish (Clerk) David Perrow (draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk)
District (VofWH) Richard Webber (534001);

& Oxfordshire County Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

## 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. <u>Our next two dates</u> are Oct 5th, and Nov 2nd. If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

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## LISTINGS

National Childbirth Trust Autumn Nearly New Sale, Sat Oct 9th, 10.30 to 12, John Mason School, Wootton Rd, Abingdon.

£1 entry, children's clothes (0-5), nursery equipment, toys & maternity wear, come early (very popular!), teas & cakes too, but please note, credit cards NOT accepted.

**ARMED FORCES DAY** Saturday Oct 23rd, Newbury racecourse, first race 1.30pm (doors open 11am), last race 4.55pm, FREE ENTRY for all military personnel, AND members of the Royal British Legion (there's family entertainment, freefall display, and top-class flat racing too).

To <u>claim your free entry</u> (2 Premier Tickets), <u>please call 01635 40015</u>, quoting your Military ID or Royal British Legion membership number. NB Under 18s FREE. For more details see <u>www.newbury-racecourse.co.uk</u> or email info@newbury-racecourse.co.uk

## ED VAIZEY - Your Local MP

I'm learning how to balance my ministerial responsibilities with those to you in the constituency. Decisions from central govt can cause concern locally, if this happens, my priority is still to represent my constituents, and do the best that I can for them.

I hope that one of my responsibilities, the roll-out of broadband, will have a positive impact locally. I spoke recently at a local conference to discuss the roll-out of superfast broadband, and I hope that Oxfordshire will benefit from the increasing focus on ensuring that we get broadband out to as many areas as possible as quickly as possible. On this topic, I was delighted to launch Wallingford's wi-fi, a brilliant idea, relatively cost-effective, and which I think will be a major attraction for the town.

The reservoir issue is reaching a conclusion, campaigners have done a brilliant job in showing that there are real viable alternatives to the scheme. Also I was delighted to attend the refurbishment of Steventon pre-school, as well as the re-opening of the Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary, which I was closely involved with through its troubles last year.

If you need to get in touch with me, telephone 020 7219 6350, write to me, c/o House of Commons, London SW1A OAA, or you can e-mail me on <a href="mailto:vaizeye@parliament.uk">vaizeye@parliament.uk</a>; the Website is <a href="mailto:www.vaizey.com">www.vaizey.com</a> with up to date news and surgery details (Wantage Civic Hall, Oct 22nd, 5.30 pm).



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## **DRAYTON DIARIES**

#### DIARY FOR OCTOBER

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

Sat Wedding Reception Bowls (all day) Sun 3

Parish Council Meeting (p9) Caudwell DC Mon 4 7.30pm

Sun 10 Antiques Fair Fri 15 Private Function

Fri 15 Chronicle Adverts DEADLINE (p2)

16 Private Function Sat 17 Sun Bowls (all day)

CHRONICLE DEADLINE Vickery's Mon 18 5.15pm

30 Wedding Reception Sat

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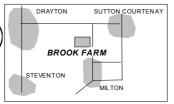
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#### REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

#### MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
12.00 pm	Weightwatchers	Caudwell DC
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session	(for 3 hours)

Beavers (Boys/girls, 6–8 yrs, Tel. 512834)

6.30 pm Youth Zone (to 7.30 except Bank Hols)

7.00 pm Scouts (Boys/girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall 7.00 pm Table Tennis (Junior coaching - 90 mins) School

7.15 pm Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday) Caudwell DC 7.30 pm Parish Council (1st Monday) Caudwell DC

7.45 pm Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) St Peter's 7.45 pm Drayton Drop-In (to 8.45, except Bank Hols)

8.00 pm Table Tennis (Senior practice + playing 2 hrs) School

8.30 pm Badminton (Private Group)

#### TUESDAYS

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

#### WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 11.00 am Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min) Haywards Rd 11.20 am Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min) The Green Car Pk

2.00 pm Whist – now each week Caudwell Day Centre

2.00 pm Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)

2.15 pm Badminton Brownies 6.15 pm

6.15 pm Cubs (Boys/girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall 7.00 pm Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour) School

Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours) 7.00 pm

7.30 pm Caudwell Day Centre Bingo Session Table Tennis - League 7.30 pm School

#### THURSDAYS

9.00 am Foot Clinic (1st Thurs) Caudwell Day Centre 9.00 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg

9.30 am Holy Communion St Peter's Lady Chapel

Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY) 9.30 am Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours) 2.00 pm

7.30 pm Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) Caudwell DC

7.30 pm Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701

7.30 pm Table Tennis - League School

#### FRIDAYS

9.00 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) Sch'l Ground Bldg 11.00 am The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466 CaudwellDay Centre Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends) Caudwell Day Centre 7.00 pm 7.00pm St Peter's Choir Practice (alt Fridays – page 4)

#### SUNDAYS

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

6.00 pm **Evening Service**  Baptist Church

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