

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 34 No. 1

February 2011

CAUSE FOR CAMPAIGN

A new campaign is underway, to reduce the speed limit along Milton Road from the national speed limit to 40mph. **The current speed is dangerous and putting lives at risk**, as we recently discovered when a fatal accident occurred along this road.

As well as this, there are businesses, housing estates, and livery yards located here. Every day people run, cycle and ride down this road, as well as drive, and **the current speed is dangerous and unacceptable**.

We are four students from Didcot Girls' School (**), and two of our group members are from Drayton and use the road regularly. Having met with both Drayton and Milton Parish Councils, we have gained the support of both villages, and plan to take the campaign further. We also met with local MP Ed Vaizey,



(pictured) who was extremely supportive.

To prove that our campaign is worthwhile, **we do need the support of the public**. It's a great shame that

the life of a young boy has to be taken before anyone takes notice of the dangers of the high speed limit. We owe this change to the young boy whose life was tragically taken, and his family.

If you would like to help to support us, please take a few seconds to sign our online petition, which you will find at www.ipetitions.com/petition/miltonroad/.

(** Authors Jasmin Burnage, Alice Strange, Rachel Smith and Charlotte Gregson; Ed Vaizey would doubtless gallantly own up to being a thorn amongst four roses here!)

Ed's Note :- Well done to the girls for trying to make a change. But, a speed limit is quite easily flouted (needs cooperation), and some drivers cannot judge the appropriate speed for tricky or even dangerous road and/or weather conditions. They may therefore like to press for a more permanent obstruction to speeders. An easy example is nearby at Sutton Courtenay, whose substantial speed-bumps deter all who don't want a wrecked suspension!

DAMASCUS – The Big Interviews

Each month young reporters from the **DAMASCUS Youth Project** are interviewing Drayton residents involved in their community. This week **Christian Milton and Harry Latimer** talk to **Claire Soper and Glenn Woolley**.

Claire Soper (questions from Christian Milton)

Q :- In what way are you involved in the village and why do you get involved?

CS: I help run Youth Zone, the village youth club, on a Monday evening. Aside from this I have delivered the Drayton Chronicle for 20 years and have also been a Drayton school governor for 10 years. I find getting involved in the community to be a good way of meeting people.

Q:- Do you think there are enough facilities in the village? Can you think of any facilities to improve the community?

CS: There are definitely not enough facilities in the village, especially for 5 years and above. Toby (Claire's Son) went to the parish council to ask for more play equipment.

Q:- What is your favourite thing about the village?

CS: I like the Chronicle, it is a good way of communicating.

Q:- If you could be any animal what would it be?

CS: Donkey, they're really gentle, and symbolic of Christianity.

Q:- In what ways could other people get involved in their community?

CS: By volunteering, Youth Zone desperately needs Volunteers.

(Please see page 10 for both the interview with Glenn Woolley, and Naomi Broomfield's report of recent Youth Zone activity)

**IN THIS ISSUE :- Heating Oil Discount? (p 11)
25% Off (p 9) Wine & Cheese (p14) Beetling? (p 13)
Lots of Letters (p 7 & 8) Volunteers (p 6, 8, 10)
Time Up at the Hall?! (p 3) Hot, Spicy Beef! (p 15)
Club and Group reports (p 3, 5, 6, 10 & 15)**

Re This Issue :- Editing this Chronicle has been made more difficult by the amount of late texts and ads received. Each Chronicle has on page 2 the deadline for the next one
- SO PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF IT ?!!

Drayton Players Present

Alan Ayckbourn's hilarious comic play **TEN TIMES TABLE** at Drayton Village Hall,

Thursday 24th, Friday 25th and Saturday 26th February 2011

Tickets are £7.00 and £6.00 concession for Senior citizens and Students.

Seating is unreserved and early purchase of tickets is recommended

Either from the box office tel: 01235 200350 or from Vickery's hardware store.

Curtain up 7.30pm - we look forward to seeing you there



COMING CHRONICLES

The **MARCH Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, February 25th**, 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, February 14th 2011.

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 11th, 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 :-

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. 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:-
April	14 March	25 March
May	11 April	29 April

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

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 JANUARY LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mr. Donovan 1 Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£20	M. Buckingham, 48 Abingdon Road	Jenny Stevens
£15	D. Dutton, 'Spindle' Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	Mr. Etwell, 17 Comeville Rd	Gerald Redman
£10	P. Thomas, 37 Lyford Close	Andrew Bax
£10	Mrs. Stirling, 107 Abingdon Road	Carol Brown
£10	Mr. Larson, 27 High Street	Mary Alexander
£10	H. S. Robertson, 72 Whitehorns Way	Daphne Barrand
£10	Mr Clarke, Driftway, Sutton Wick Lane	Beryl Dawson
£10	Mr. Johnston, 49 Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson

Winning tickets, from 2234 sold, were drawn by Red Lion staff.

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 Brownies old and new, hope everyone had a great break and you are all ready for our spring challenges.

I would like to welcome Annie Soper who is joining us as a young leader, Annie was a Brownie at Drayton who is now a girl guide, she is also involved with Drayton youth zone.

Badges we are working towards this term are World Cultures, World Guiding and book lover. This term we are planning to make wooden spoon puppets, necklaces and bracelets.

We have our 'Thinking Day' celebrations which involve dressing up in costumes from around the world, sampling unusual foods and drinks from other countries, decorating biscuits and an evening of American line dancing.

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.

Shirley Thomas

Our long awaited 90th celebration was a great success, it was pleasing to see so many past members and hopefully they enjoyed both catching up with old friends and the very nice afternoon tea spread.

Our birthday cake was quite outstanding, made and beautifully decorated by one of our members, Gillian Pett. Ann Webb, who has been in the Drayton W.I. for more than forty years, was invited to cut the cake (see picture on page 6).

To mark the occasion a **wall clock was presented** to the village hall by our President, Mrs Brenda Malin.

We ended the year with our get together supper, catered for by Carol Arnold and her band of young helpers, all of whom we would like to thank. We had a good start to the New Year with our meeting cum supper held at The White Horse, Abingdon, a very enjoyable evening.

Now we must get back to normal with our meeting on Feb 10th at The Caudwell Day Centre, with Julia Sharpe talking about Pets as Therapy. **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.**

M. S. Lally

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DRAYTON WIVES

Pam Lacey

Early December a group of members plus two husbands braved the intense cold weather and had an enjoyable trip by train to Bath to the Christmas Market. The cabins were very colourful selling a wide range of Christmas gifts and goods. An enjoyable day was had by all despite the very cold weather.

Mid December we had our Christmas afternoon tea and enjoyed mince pies accompanied by a glass of sherry, followed by tea/coffee and gorgeous homemade sponge cakes. We then had a quiz and finished off a lovely afternoon by singing carols.

Reference our 50th Birthday Celebration in June, if anyone has any contact information on past members please call Ann Hutchings on (01235) 511122.

Dates for your Diary in February:-

COFFEE Mon 14 Georgie, Daphne P, Judith, Cathy

WHIST Mon 21 Doreen Eato

LUNCH Wed 23 Village Hall - jacket potatoes & fillings, dessert.

(Please bring plates, cutlery, glass, cold drink; 12pm for 12.30pm)

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge	Interregnum	
Minister in training	Revd Rosie Bruce	525284
Churchwardens	Mrs Sue Harris	848361
	Mrs Val Cross	535183
Choir Director	Jo Burn	
Organist	Robert 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	8.30 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	1st	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
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PARISH REGISTER

Funeral Jan 10th William John Cook

YOU STAY – WE PRAY (February)

Jan 30th to Feb 5th :- Abingdon Rd, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Haywards Rd.

6th to 12th :- Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane & Conifer Drive.

13th to 26th :- Hilliat Fields, Lyford Close, Manor Close, The Green.

Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

December is one of the busiest times in the Church's calendar and this year was no exception especially when Christmas Day falls on a Saturday so there is the potential for six services in three days! Our Christmas started early with an invitation to sing carols in the Wheatsheaf on Saturday December 11th. As usual Austen and Geraldine made us very welcome and over £50 was collected for Church funds.

The following week we were due to have our carol service at 4pm on Sunday 19th. However the snow came that weekend! We had to cancel the 8am service that morning but the carol service went ahead with a good number of people braving the elements to attend. Luckily they had mulled wine and mince pies to help them on their way home afterwards!

On Christmas Eve Rosie lead the crib service followed later by Midnight Mass. On Christmas Day we welcomed back John Osborn and Keith Kinnaird to take the 8am and 10am services. Finally on Boxing Day Jack Jarvis led a communion by extension service at 9am with Healing Ministry.

We are very grateful to Rosie for all the hard work she put into the Christmas services and for the help we received from our visiting clergy. Thanks are due also to everyone who took part in those services, decorated the tree, and provided the mulled wine and mince-pies, and finally our flower group who made the church look so beautiful.

We apologise if you did not receive a Christmas card this year. Unfortunately due to various circumstances they did not arrive until Christmas Eve. As you are aware the pavements in Drayton were treacherous at this time and coupled with the late delivery it was impossible to get many of them out around the village.

At the time of writing we still have no replacement priest for Josie. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we strive to keep the message of God alive within the village and the Church of St Peter. (*Sue Harris and Val Cross Churchwardens*)



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THE RED LION

(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton Pre-School Playgroup Debbie Bargas

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

Our topic this term is Traditional tales, we will be investigating stories like Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and more. Children will have opportunity to extend their learning and development through fun play activities which will be closely linked to the story of the week.

We had quite an exciting time in the run up to Christmas, making lots of goodies, we also had a Christmas party and the children had the chance to get some last minute requests to Santa. We hope they all enjoyed themselves

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the Children's Christmas party and donated to the Raffle.

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:- Term 3 ends on Friday 18th February 2011

Term 4 begins on Monday 28th February 2011

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

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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.



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Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

A happy New Year to all my readers. I hope that you are recovered from any excesses that may have befallen you over the festive season!

If anyone is looking for **exercise to help remove those extra pounds** then please come along on a **Monday evening** to Drayton School and **try out table tennis**. We are a very friendly club and welcome all ages. Whether you are a beginner or experienced young or old you will be welcome. At £1 per session it's very good value! Beginners (children & adults) from 6.30pm and experienced adults from 8.30 pm.

The New Year will see the start of the team Handicap Tournament. Last season Drayton B won the competition and they will be trying to do so again. In the Final they beat another Drayton team but the D team won't be entering this season due to team holiday and work commitments. Our C,E,F,G & H teams will be involved so I hope to report on more success in the event.

In the League the B team are reigning supreme in Division 2 having won all their first 8 ties. There is a long way to go with 18 ties altogether but they look good for a return to the top Division. Our other teams are finding life harder, this being due to the reorganised League structure that has reduced each division from 12 to 10 teams thus ensuring that the sides are all well matched.

The A team lie 4th in Division 1 but still have time to catch up and retain their position as reigning League Champions. Karl Bushell completed 2010 with a 100% record in the Didcot League – a superb achievement, testament to his ability and consistency.

Anyway next month we will give a report on the Handicap teams progress. Until then have a great 2011.

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www.musicforlife.info sarah@musicforlife.info

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MILLENNIUM GREEN POND NEWS

The litter rota for 2011 will stay the same as last year. If you are no longer able to do it or if you want a reminder when your turn is, please ring me.

Thank-you for your help last year and good wishes for 2011.

Gwen Price (531205)

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

(EVEN MORE) ALL AROUND

The ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

Due to ill health, our current President stood down at the recent AGM, making the following changes to Officers :-

President - Mr Pat Bucklan; Chairman – Mr Tony Ireson;
Vice-Chairman - Mr Richard Whittle.

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

Please 'HELP US TO HELP THEM' by supporting our Annual Easter Draw. Tickets on sale at the usual outlets.



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CHRONICLE NEWS

We really appreciate Julie Lonsdale taking on the role of Chronicle agent to the area of Steventon Road beyond the by-pass.

We still have a few **vacancies** if there is anyone who would like to get involved:- **Manor Close, Hilliat Fields** (nos 17 – 36) ; and **Whitehorns Way** (40 to 80).

The role can be shared if that makes it easier. Feel free to give me a call if you would like to chat about it.

Gareth Davies (529510 - Chronicle co-ordinator)

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

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

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Drayton BABY & TODDLER Group Vicky Cotterell

Well it's nice to be back to normal after the busy Christmas period and to see all of our friends again.

Before Christmas we had a lovely party with a special visitor, bouncy castle, party games and food and we hope that both children and adults enjoyed it. We also had a 'grown up' meal out for mummies and carers which was enjoyed and well deserved.

We had some new friends start at the end of last term, we are pleased to see them and hope that they continue to enjoy our group.

We had fun raising some funds by having our hands and feet painted to make coasters, bags and mats and also photos taken just in time for Christmas presents. We have more planned which involves buying plants and seeds.

Thank you to Joy for all our tea, coffee and snacks over the year and we're pleased to say that she is still coming this year.

We have lots planned for this year and would love any new 'friends' to join us on Thursday morning 9.30-11.30 in the village hall. **For more information** please contact Vicky on 07779 243290



ANN WEBB cuts the W.I. 90th Anniversary cake (see page 3).

YOUR LETTERS

Community Spirit (Food & Carols too!)

Dear Sir, Binning Close

We would like to express our thanks to Sue and Paul Campbell of Haywards Road for suggesting and organising a Christmas Eve get together for the all the residents of Haywards Road and Binning Close.

Community spirit shined through as everyone enjoyed warming mulled wine, tasty hot dogs, cake, mince pies and hot chocolate while gathered around an atmospheric fire outside Sue and Paul's house. We then enthusiastically belted out a fair few carols before the freezing temperatures finally got the better of us.

It was great to gather with so many friends and neighbours and meet some new ones to share in the spirit of Christmas.

Happy New Year Everyone The Hutchinson Family

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

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Friday Club

Dear Sir, 8 Lockway

How quickly this year has gone by, as once again the time has come (on behalf of all the Friday Club members) **to thank all** the cooks, drivers, and other helpers who have supported us throughout the year.

Also another BIG thank you to those who cooked, helped with and donated to our wonderful Christmas lunch, not forgetting Brian who entertained us.

Yours Sincerely Sylvia & Beryle

Want help researching your family tree?

*Don't have the time, resources or expertise?
Perhaps I can help. Contact me:*

Maureen Hudson

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MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If your Area Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle, you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop in the week after normal delivery time. Lawrence has very kindly agreed to keep a small stock for us.

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Happy 90th Charlie !

Dear Sir, Abingdon Road

Through the Chronicle, **I would like to thank everyone** who sent me a birthday card for my 90th birthday. It made it a really special day for me!

I would also like to wish you all a very happy New Year!! Thank you all once again.

With my very best wishes Charlie Booth

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

Community Volunteer - Please Help

Dear Sir, (via email)

I am a resident of Drayton, and a current Loughborough University student; in April 2011 I shall be doing a **Community Volunteering project** in **Tanzania**, Eastern Africa.

This 4 week project will involve **building and renovating a local school** as well as teaching to children in the area and making a real difference.

For me to do this **I need to raise £1300**, which includes paying for building materials.

There follows a link for my fundraising page :-
(<http://www.justgiving.com/MichaelJordanDoesTanzania>)

I would be most grateful for any help Chronicle readers can give.

Kind Regards, Michael Jordan

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EVEN MORE LETTERS

Boulevard Swing

Dear Sir, (via email)

Many thanks to the Drayton folk who came and supported 'Boulevard Swing' at their recent concert at Didcot Cornerstone. It was much appreciated.

Also the CDs are now available of the live concert for a 'modest donation' for anyone who is interested.

Please apply at www.Boulevardswingjazz.com or call me on (01235) 531683

Yours Sincerely B. Thompson

☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Marie Curie Appeal - Thanks

Dear Editor, 93 Abingdon Rd

Many thanks to the residents of Abingdon Rd (nos 86 - 140) who gave to the November Marie Curie Cancer Appeal.

A total of £36-89p was collected. And grateful thanks also to Emily, for braving the chilly weather to help.

Yours Sincerely Julie Brown

☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Natasha & PACE

Dear Sir, 20 Steventon Rd

During the week before Christmas, I went round about half the village collecting for the **PACE Centre**.

Thanks to all who gave so generously, I collected £320! It was snowy, slippery and very beautiful in Drayton, and well worth it.

Natasha is now 11, and has moved to an extension of PACE, further afield. She still has a lot of pain in her back, but exudes happiness.

Sincerely Judy Henman

☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Give Up the Bus Pass? - NO Thanks !

Dear Sir, 19 Marcham Rd

Let me give praise to Brian Eastoe's sensitive views (Chronicle Dec issue) in order to justify the popular Govt-sponsored bus pass scheme and to dismiss our councillor's advice to give them up!

The possible results can be seen in the following pros & cons:-

A) Less passengers, so more alternative transport required, more pollution, possible withdrawal of services;

B) More passengers, equals less cars and other vehicles, so less pollution and less congestion, comfortable buses and less parking problems.

Also, other failures to effectively represent our local people should be noted, eg failure to evaluate the Drayton Survey, weak activities related to the Stratton Rd project, and little recognition of village parking problems, etc.

Hopefully we can expect reasoned advice and better communication, with successful problem solving in the future.

Best wishes for a successful New Year David Delafield

(Ed's note - for space reasons this letter, originally somewhat longer, had to be shortened, hopefully keeping most of the salient points)

Parish Council / Community Plan

Dear Sir, (by email)

For those residents looking for a resolution for the New Year, I have a couple of ideas for you. By now everybody will have heard of Mr Cameron's 'Big Society' and many will have voted for his colleague Ed Vaizey at the last election. In the next year there will be a national debate about the Localism Bill, the government's recent attempt to put these ideas into action.

In May the current Parish Council will come to the end of its term and **the village will be looking to elect 11 people** to take on this role at a time when its powers and responsibilities **might be significantly increased**. Everybody should also be aware that a start has been made on working up a Community Plan. However, further progress will depend on whether there are people interested in such matters as expanding the recreational opportunities in the village, looking at opportunities to build affordable housing, protecting or improving public transport, maintaining biodiversity, looking at food supply (agriculture, horticulture and allotments) or exploring opportunities for local employment (**and many other matters of importance to the future of the village**).

A meaningful Plan cannot be produced without large number of people contributing their knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm. Given the range of opportunities on the Parish Council and on the Community Plan working groups there would seem to be a New Year resolution for everyone. Those with **an interest in the Parish Council** can see it in operation at the Caudwell Day Centre at 7.30pm on the first Monday of the month. Those wanting to work on the Community Plan, please ring me on 01235 531107.

Happy New Year

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Poppy Appeal - THANKS!

Dear Sir, (by email)

The total raised in Drayton was £1,798.62 - an increase of 15.44% over the 2009 total. This was £1,332.91 in house-to-house collections, collections of £378.74 in the pubs, shops & Golf Club and £86.97 collected at the RBL Remembrance Service at St.Peter's.

A very big "Thank you!" to all the collectors for their hard work, and to Drayton for giving so generously.

Peter & Diana Hasting

(Poppy Appeal Organisers for Steventon & District - EHD 21)

Oxfordshire Advocacy (charity) provides a FREE service, for people who have difficulty getting their voices heard about matters concerning them. Helped are those with short-term issues, with learning disabilities, with dementia, or those who lack capacity.

New volunteers, receiving training and expenses, are **needed**, with a one year commitment. The time constraint is not large and there is continual support throughout. The next training is being held on **Feb 3rd, 4th and 11th**.

Contact Rebecca Norris, administrator (01865 741200).

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(YET MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton YOUTH ZONE Naomi Broomfield

Youth Zone is a youth club open to all young people in school years 6 to 10 and operates on Monday evenings in term time from 6pm till 7.30pm (PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME) in the village hall. **Please come along and join in.**

Children in Need Sale:- On Saturday Nov 20th, Youth zone young people organised a sale in the Cauldwell Centre to support BBC Children in Need. In total £165 was raised and Drayton Brownies presented a cheque for £50 making the final total £215! **A fantastic result** and well done to all the young people who supported the event, also thanks to Ruth Hudson and the Brownies who helped. A huge thank you also to all those who came along.

Future plans:- The sports activities sessions provided to Youth Zone in November and December, which were funded by Sport England through OAYP, were hugely successful and much enjoyed by those who attended. We are currently negotiating with a coach to have more of these sessions from Jan 31st to the end of March.

Thank you:- We have recently received a very generous donation towards our contined operation from Mrs Daria Stimpson, formerly a resident of Drayton. Mrs Stimpson ran a youth club in the village hall some years ago and we are extremely grateful to her for her patronage and interest in Youth Zone. It is mainly due to this support that we will be able to continue the sports activities until the end of March.

Volunteers:- Once again a plea to ANYONE who might be interested in helping for 1.5 hours on a Monday occasionally. We currently operate with just three adult volunteers and are only managing to keep going by buying in a sports coach to support the club. **PLEASE PLEASE consider whether you could get involved** - just once a month would be fantastic! Ring either Claire (531632) or Naomi (532248) for more information.

DRAYTON PLAYERS Jean Hager

Rehearsals are now well advanced for our forthcoming production, and we hope you will join us on Feb 24th, 25th or 26th. Curtain up is 7.30pm, and tickets may be obtained at Vickery's, or by phone (01235) 200350. Other details can be seen in the separate advert (front page).

TEN TIMES TABLE is a comedy by Alan Ayckbourn, giving the onlooker an amusing overview of how village committees work (not very well in this play!). A pageant is in preparation, and progress is hampered by the varied and clashing personalities of those involved. It all unravels comically to a disorganised and noisy conclusion, providing much hilarity along the way.

February can be a very dull and chilly month; come along, have a warming laugh - Spring can't be far away!

Drayton Twinning Society Michael Bell

We are having a **Wine and Cheese Evening** on Tues Feb 15th at 7:30pm at the Caudwell Centre. Like all local groups we are keen for residents to become involved in our activities. Do consider coming along to this **Open Meeting** to find out what we do?

Whatever hobbies, interests or sporting activities you enjoy - if you belong to a club or society in Drayton, there are likely to be members of similar organisations in Lesparre waiting to make your acquaintance.

In August it is our turn to host a group from Lesparre, we are looking at ideas towards an itinerary for the visit. Perhaps you could consider hosting? If you are unable to make the Open meeting do call Michael Bell (531388), Stephen Fearnley (531347) or Bob Matthews (531204) for more information.

The Big Interviews (continued from page 1)

Glenn Woolley (questions from Harry Latimer)

Glenn has lived in Drayton with his wife Janet, two daughters, Laura and Katy, and son Tom for many years. Eleven years ago they took over the reins at the Red Lion, where they have been serving the community until just before Christmas. The Red Lion, along with the Wheatsheaf and all the shops and services in Drayton are central to community life.

Q:- Have you enjoyed your time as landlord, and why?

GW: Yes I have enjoyed my time at the Red Lion. It is an important part of the community. I have also been involved in the Football Club for the same reason.

Q:- What made you decide to move on from the Red Lion?

GW: Pub life isn't what it used to be. With supermarkets selling cheap drink it is very hard to compete. Many people seem to entertain themselves at home these days. It is a lot harder to make a living out of owning a pub than what it was when I started.

Q:- What are your plans for the future?

GW: To do very little and not work too hard!

Q:- In your lifetime in the village, have you noticed many changes?

GW: Yes there have been many changes since I moved to the village. The community is not the same. There is less of a community feel. This is the main change that I have noticed.

Q:- Do you like the village life style as it is now?

GW: Yes I do. As I said the community is not as strong but it is a nice village and I like living here and the people are nice.

Q:- If you could be any animal what would it be?

GW: Koala bear. It means that I would be in sunny, hot Australia, not moving much, eating a lot and sleeping a lot!

Q:- You have a son and two daughters who now all live outside the village. Do you think they prefer to live away?

GW: If they could afford to live in the village I am sure they would like to. But it is very hard for young people to find affordable housing in Drayton. This is one of the big problems.

Drayton BOWLS Club 'Roll Up'

Finals day was held on Dec 6th, with over 40 members present, and was a very successful day, with the following members picking up the trophies for the year 2010.

'Didcot Windows' open singles	John Goodacre.
'Derek Messenger' Ladies singles	June Hyde.
'Doreen Jones' Never won trophy.	Avril Holmes.
'The Attwood 'cup	Jan Cook.
'Henry Bunce' Handicap pairs	Nick Carter Liz Brenton.
'Wally Weightman' triples	Fred Long, Jane Pimm, Carol Smith.
'Rose bowl ' Triple league	Tony Wright, Fred Long, Carol Smith.
'John Berry' Fours league	Jack Mitchenson, Avril Holmes, Pam Smith, Graham Lacey, and . . . Ladies v Gents match, Gents!

The league teams are looking good at the half way stage with The Wasps & Hammers joint leaders of the afternoon triple league, and both teams will be looking for a good finish in the rest of the season, with hopefully one of them picking up the title.

The annual dinner dance and presentation night was held at the Golf club, with over 50 members there; Val (chairperson) thanked Tony Wright, Olive & Gillis for organizing the evening, trophies to the winners were presented by various members of the club.

We are looking for new members, and if there is anyone who would like to give it a try, sessions are Mondays and Thursdays afternoons 2 till 5 and Wednesday evening 7 till 10, **the first 3 sessions are free, a warm welcome awaits**, we look forward to seeing you.

PARISH COUNCIL (Dec & Jan)

At the time of writing, and following the very severe cold snap, we appear to be having a welcome spell of relatively mild weather. However, with a couple of months of winter to go, it's entirely possible that by the time you read this, the temperatures will have plummeted once again. **It therefore seems appropriate** to mention a **couple of schemes** which have recently been brought to the attention of the Parish Council, both of them very relevant to this subject.

The Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, which is a registered local charity, has set up a new **bulk-buying scheme for domestic heating oil**, having created a trading arm (ORCC Trading Ltd) specifically for this purpose. Clearly, the scheme is aimed only at people using this particular form of heating, but if, as some reports have suggested, the cost of heating oil has risen even more steeply than gas and electricity, it would seem a timely and potentially very helpful initiative.

The idea is that members will pay an annual fee of £20 to join the scheme. ORCC will continuously shop around between the various oil companies that supply premises in Oxfordshire and get the best price. Once a month, local community-based co-ordinators will be asked to let ORCC know which of the local members want to order oil, and how much. ORCC will tell the co-ordinator when the delivery will be and how much it will cost.

As ORCC will be buying for large numbers of customers, it believes that, unless members are only using a tiny amount of oil, the savings they make should be substantially greater than the annual membership fee. It is intended that the scheme be very community-based, and **ORCC are looking for local co-ordinators** who will be willing to put in an hour or two each month to help get things off the ground and keep them ticking over. No special skills are required, but co-ordinators must be reliable and well-organised, and they will need access to a home computer and the internet. Local co-ordinators will get free membership of the scheme, thereby enjoying savings without any upfront cost. Anyone interested in being a co-ordinator, or just an ordinary member, can find further details on the website:- go to www.oxonrcc.org.uk and follow the links to Bulk Oil Purchasing Scheme. →>>>

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>>> The Parish Council also received a letter from Nicola Blackwood, the MP for Oxford West and Abingdon, concerning a local campaign called the Oxfordshire Surviving Winter Appeal. The appeal highlights the fact that every winter, many vulnerable people in Oxfordshire, mainly elderly, live in fuel poverty which leaves them often having to choose between heating their homes and buying food or medicine. While all eligible older people receive a Winter Fuel Payment to help keep them warm, it may still be a struggle to make ends meet, with all the recent increases not just in fuel prices, but in the cost of many basic foods as well.

At the same time, many people are fortunate enough to be financially secure and do not need this annual benefit as much. In response, Oxfordshire Community Foundation and Oxfordshire Age UK have teamed up to offer a way for those who do not need their Winter Fuel Payment **to donate all, or part of it to those who do**. The money raised will go to those local charities and community organisations who can reach those most in need of support. If anyone is minded to donate their own allowance to the Oxfordshire Community Foundation, donation forms are available at Oxford Town Hall, County Hall, public libraries, many doctors' surgeries, and so on. Alternatively, people can donate online or download a donation form by going to www.oxfordshire.org where they will find more information about the Appeal.

All of which information leaves little space for recounting the recent activities of the Parish Council. Needless to say, there are plenty of issues to cover, and hopefully I will catch up on some of these in next month's report.

As ever, people are invited to attend any Parish Council meeting to see what goes on. **The next meeting** will be on Monday 7th February, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane.

Richard Williams

YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Breaking the rules

Since I took on the job of representing you on the District Council, I've tried to avoid using this column to gain what might be seen as political advantage. Please forgive me for breaking my own rules on two issues, both of which really get to me.

However annoying and inconvenient heavy traffic may be, I am sure that we would all agree that safety on our roads should have top priority. At the Sutton Courtenay end of the High Street we have a persistent problem of traffic entering a 30mph area on a dangerous bend where people have to reverse on to the main road to exit their properties and pedestrians have to take on a steep, muddy crossing. So far, we have been lucky – some would say *very* lucky, in not having had a serious accident in this part of the village. All that is preventing a solution is the inability of the County Council Highways Dept and Pathways Dept to talk to each other. The Parish Council is prepared to pay its share. **All those who agree could help the cause** by asking the OCC Highways department to undertake a safety audit on this bend.

A few years ago now, village organisations were being ordered by my own Council to remove notices advertising their events on the grounds that they were adding to 'street clutter'. Thankfully, things have relaxed a little since then. However, the presence of a very large mobile hoarding on the lay-by on the main road into Abingdon – advertising a business at Milton Park - seems to many of us to be an abuse of Advertising regulations. Much more importantly, the siting of the hoarding effectively makes parking in, and exiting from the lay-by highly unsafe. If you agree, please let OCC Highways department know how you feel.

Waste collection, Bank Holidays, Patience & Good Sense

I'd like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding over the Christmas period on this issue. Heavy snow in the run up to Christmas dislocated an already complex collection timetable due to the Christmas and New Year Holidays falling on weekends.

We should be back on track with the Christmas timetable as I write, and fully back to normal collection dates by January 24th. To date I have not received a single complaint from anyone in this village. Elsewhere in the country, there has been a deluge of complaints partly fuelled by some incendiary press reporting. Everything I have seen of our new waste collection contract convinces me that people understand that **we are on the verge of posting some of the most impressive figures on recycling rates in the country.** →>>>



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Student Debt

It seems to me that the most depressing aspect of the recent protests over student fees has been the general level at which the debate has been conducted. We have been subjected to an overdose of emotion and poor press reporting. We face a simple choice:– should we close half the new universities because we cannot afford them, or should we find some way to fund them. In the present financial climate, funding in the old way was simply not possible, in which case, asking the beneficiaries to pay a larger contribution was the only option. I wonder how many of those protesting in the recent riots actually understood the following:–

- 1) No-one under the new system will pay anything up front – only after they graduate, and only after they are deemed to be able to afford it. Parents do not have to pay anything.
- 2) Repayments will only kick in when the graduate is earning £21K per year+. At which point, the monthly repayments will be scaled. If people lose their job, or drop back below the £21K threshold, repayments will cease.
- 3) Any outstanding debt will be written off after 30 years.
- 4) Maintenance grants will be increased from £2906pa to £3250pa
- 5) Graduates earn, on average, at least £100,000 more over their lifetimes than non-graduates.

I simply cannot see the unfairness in any of that, and if it's the only way we can ensure that more people benefit from a university education, then surely it is worth it. Whatever your view, I hope that you will agree with me that nothing, absolutely nothing justifies some of the violence, damage and intimidation we witnessed in London before Christmas. **Richard Webber**

(To discuss this or any other topic, please contact me on 01235 534001 or by email:– richard.webber77@ntlworld.com)

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DRAYTON FC Under-18s Pictured at a recent game against Bullingdon; missing from the photo are Luke Latimer, Liam Harris and Nathan Page. Please see the full report from Richard Seamark (sponsors please!) on page 15.

Christmas activities may seem far behind us but they are well worth a mention. To start the festive season, the whole school enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Watermill Theatre to see Treasure Island. This was a professional production with all parts played by just a few actors and there were plenty of opportunities for the audience to get involved both vocally and by throwing 'rocks' at the pirates.

Congratulations to staff and pupils for the excellent performances of 'No Room for a Baby' by Reception and Years 1 and 2, and 'Stable Manners' by the older pupils.

We ended the term with a Christmas Carol concert at St Peter's Church.

Around the School

We will soon have road markings in the approach to school which should help with the congestion in Hilliat Fields. **CCTV will also be in place to deter unwanted visitors** who have been leaving cans on the field and in the outdoor classroom. Toilets are being refurbished in both the lower and upper schools. All these improvements will make for a much more pleasant school environment. →>>>



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Classroom news

Robins (Reception and Year 1) are going "To Infinity and Beyond" looking at space and superheroes. They will be making a model of the moon and creating aliens – sounds out of this world!

Ravens (Years 1 and 2) are studying "All About Us" - seeing how they have changed since they were born, producing self portraits and discovering the school life of their ancestors. In science, they will explore healthy living and exercise.

Red Kites (Year 3) have been invaded by Vikings and are discovering Norse myths, Viking runes, how to make a Viking boat and the whole aspect of Viking life. This will provide an opportunity to dress up and spend a day in the life of a Viking.

Kingfishers (Years 4 and 5) are "Going to India" and have started by making Indian figures dressed in beautiful colourful clothes. They're learning about a small village called Chembakolli.

Eagles (Years 5 and 6) are going "Around the World in 80 Days" plotting travel routes to take in points of interest and using real modes of surface travel. Throughout this term they will be using their weather stations to monitor weather patterns. In PE they will be learning dances from different parts of the world together with music influenced by various countries.

Finally

FODSA (Friends of Drayton School Association) would like to say a **BIG thank you** to the outgoing Chair - Annette Mitchell, and Vice-chair – Lucy Kogel for all their hard work.

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GARDENING TIME

Winter Performer

The short days of winter may not be prime gardening time but there's one plant that will catch the eye, the **Skimmia**, one of the finest winter-flowering evergreens for the garden, providing spot colour in otherwise dreary parts of the winter border. Because of its compact habit, it's also perfect for containers and jardinières.

The Skimmia's native habitat is the Himalayas, Asia and Japan and this gives some indication as to the plant's hardiness, something to bear in mind in view of the recent cold winters we've had. Skimmias tolerate temperatures of down to -20°C and are not easily damaged by the weight of snow.

Their dark green, leathery leaves are the perfect foil for their showy flowers and berries. Throughout the winter, Skimmia plants are covered in large clusters of red or white flower buds which open into strongly-scented flowers in spring. The flowers will eventually form bright red berries. In fact, all parts of the plant are aromatic when crushed.

Individual Skimmia cultivars are either male or female so if you want berries, one of each needs to be planted together to ensure pollination. A nice female plant is *S. japonica* 'Nymans' and this can be planted alongside the male *S. japonica* 'Rubella'. 'Nymans' produces tiny white flowers which are followed by masses of red berries in late spring. 'Rubella' provides very dark, red-margined, green leaves and cherry-red flower buds.

However, if space is at a premium in the border or you want to plant in pots, go for the hermaphrodite *S. japonica reevesiana*. This lovely low-growing plant produces clusters of fragrant white flowers, often tinged pink or red, in spring. Flowers are followed by deep crimson berries that last into the autumn, even the winter.

Because Skimmias are slow-growing and mound-forming, they are the perfect container plant, only reaching an eventual height of around a metre. If you are going to plant in a pot, make sure it's at least 35 - 40cm in width and height. Once planted into a good-sized pot, they won't need to be moved on which is a bonus. Make sure you plant in ericaceous compost however and provide an ericaceous liquid or soluble feed during the growing season.

If you want to plant in a border instead, Skimmias combine really well with ferns and hostas. They can also be planted with the acid-loving Pieris, Azalea and Rhododendron (their preferred soil conditions are neutral to acid). They don't like chalky soil so if that's your garden environment, either plant in a pot or incorporate lots of acid-rich matter into the soil. Skimmias are tolerant of both shady and sunny conditions alike.

Another plus-point is that they require minimal pruning, if any. In fact, it's best not to prune at all but simply remove any dead wood. There are some 50 year old Skimmias in the National Trust's Bodnant Gardens in Wales which are still only just over a metre in height yet have never been pruned.

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DRAYTON Twinning

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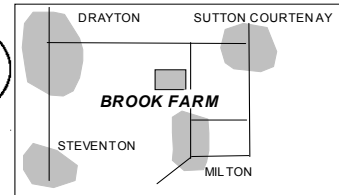
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GARD NEWS UPDATE

There have been several enquiries from local people but to date there is no new hard information to report. It is assumed that following the Public Inquiry the Inspector's Report (due to have been submitted to Defra by the end of Nov) is now undergoing 'quality assurance' - whatever that involves!

The Minister responsible for water, Mr Richard Benyon, MP for Newbury is undoubtedly aware of GARD's concerns, and those of the many others opposed to the proposed Thames Water Upper Thames Reservoir (UTR). For understandable reasons of probity Mr Benyon cannot meet GARD or any other interested parties until the Report is officially submitted to him. Meanwhile there has been encouraging interest in the outcome by several MPs, with positive help from Ed Vaizey MP and Nicola Blackwood MP, to whom we are very grateful.

A National Policy Statement (NPS) for Water is due to be issued by the Government in July 2011 and it is our aim that the UTR should not be allowed to feature in it, at least until the alternatives have been properly and thoroughly investigated. GARD will continue to try to educate those who have influence in political circles in the NPS drafting, and we will also make an input to several other policy papers, including those on treatment of wastewater and the £2.8Bn Thames Tideway Tunnel, to reinforce our reputation founded on the expert advice given to us for the Public Inquiry by our distinguished water resources consultants.

Nick Thompson (Hon Chairman GARD)

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NOTICE BOARD

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 February 1st, and March 1st. If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

DRAYTON FC UNDER 18s

The Under 18s are enjoying yet another disjointed season due to weather disruption! The season that should be ending at the end of January is now due to go on until the end of March. However this hasn't badly affected training with the men's squad at Tilsley Park - or the quality of our play!

At present the team is third in the League with one of the best scoring records and are looking to earn 3 points in the local derby against Milton - the boys have every reason to be confident after a convincing 11-1 win against Bullingdon, Oxford last week.

We have a very dedicated bunch of lads, many of whom in addition to playing for the Under 18s on a Sunday are now also playing for the Drayton men's 1st team or Reserves team on a Saturday and are merging into those teams very well and are holding their own. There is also interest in helping to train the Under 10's and U11's on a Saturday morning so a community spirit is starting to thrive within the club.

As ever we are looking for funding for equipment and for winter training costs and to allow the Under 18s to have their own weekly session, if any business out there would like to assist us we would be very grateful for any donation no matter how small, please contact me by phone (01235) 531246 or email Rseamark@aol.com *Richard Seamark*

Wooden Spoon Recipe No. 37 (from Feb 2003)

by LOIS RENNELLS Hot Spiced Beef (serves 4)

2 tablespoons oil or dripping, 1 ½ lb good stewing steak (trimmed and cut into 1" cubes), 3 large onions (peeled), 1 x 200 gram can unsweetened pineapple rings, 2 teaspoons curry powder, 1 tablespoon tomato purée, 1 x 425 gram can peeled tomatoes, 1 tablespoon wine vinegar, 2 tablespoons apricot jam, ¼ pint beef stock, salt and freshly ground black pepper, chopped parsley to garnish.

Pre-heat oven to 160C (adjust for fan ovens)/Gas mark 3.

Heat the oil in a pan and fry the beef (in batches) until evenly browned. Transfer to a casserole.

Chop the onions and pineapple very finely, then add to the pan with all the other ingredients, including pineapple juice, and bring to the boil. Pour this mixture over the beef in the casserole, mix well and cover the casserole tightly.

Cook for 2 – 2 ½ hours or until the meat is tender. Taste and adjust the seasoning.

Garnish with plenty of chopped fresh parsley.

Serve with plain boiled rice or creamed potatoes. Alternatively this dish is also good served with boiled rice mixed with peppers, chopped toasted nuts, raisins and peas.

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk) David Perrow (draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk)

District (VofWH) Richard Webber (534001);

& Oxfordshire County Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

LISTINGS

Animal Rescue Charity Barn Sale National Animal Welfare Trust, Trindledown Farm, Wantage Rd, Great Shefford; Sun Feb 6th, 10am to 1pm, wide variety of items for sale, hot refreshments all morning, come and bag a bargain!

Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock to March 6th :-

Holograms An exhibition in spectacular 3D by leading holographic artists. Open 10-5 (Suns 2-5) closed Mondays, FREE Admission

ED VAIZEY - Your Local MP

In the constituency the main issue of concern remains housing, with vigorous debates taking place in Wantage, Grove, Didcot and the surrounding villages, and Wallingford, about the amount of housing and where it should be built.

In the coming months, Parliament may pass a Bill to give villages and towns the right to apply for additional housing where they want it, which may change the nature of the debate.

The war is never far away, and in Didcot a plaque has been dedicated at the war memorial for the bomb disposal regiment based there, as well as an express train run by First Great Western. It was a privilege for me to visit one of our injured local soldiers in the Birmingham hospital recently.

Recently, I have received many letters and emails re a campaign to change the time zone of the UK – basically to get rid of daylight saving (DST). It's an issue that has often come before Parliament but has not been properly considered for many years. Daylight Saving Time was introduced in Britain during WW1.

Between 1968 and 1971, year-round DST was adopted for a trial period but later abandoned. Current campaigns are proposing trying this again, or simply moving both summer and winter forward by one hour. It is said that it would reduce road accidents preventing up to 80 deaths and 200 serious injuries every year.

However, I am not convinced that the change would benefit everyone. Apart from the massive costs caused by making the change, early-risers & schoolchildren would have to walk through darker mornings, we would no longer wake to find the sun streaming through our windows and also Greenwich itself would no longer ever observe Greenwich Mean Time. I know that my fellow Ministers continue to hear from both sides of this argument and are currently considering what effects a change would have.

An upcoming issue which Parliament and voters will have to contend with is the referendum on the Alternative Vote system (AV). On the one hand we have a tried and tested method called 'First Past the Post', which I favour, where simply the candidate with the most votes is elected. Despite its simplicity and the comfort to voters who know exactly how their vote will be used, critics say this system is unfair on smaller parties who gain less Commons seats than their percentage of the vote suggests.

AV asks voters to rank the candidates in order of preference, and then eliminates the weakest candidates in rounds, reassigning their votes, until one candidate receives over 50%. **I would be interested to know your views.**

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 (Wantage Civic Hall, Feb 4th, 5.30 pm).

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

Sat	5	Party (afternoon)
Mon	7 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (p11) <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Thur	10	W.I. meeting (Pets as Therapy) <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Fri	11	Chronicle Adverts DEADLINE (p2)
Sun	13	Antiques Fair
Mon	14 5.15pm	CHRONICLE DEADLINE <i>Vickery's</i>
Sat	19	Party (afternoon)
Sun	20	Players set-up
Wed	23 noon	Wives Lunch Players Rehearsal
Thur	24	Players performance (also 25 & 26th)
Sun	27	Bowls (all day)

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After Christmas (by Ann Marshall)

Following close on the heels of Christmas
(almost in the ruts from Santa's sleigh) -

And just when the Sales season hits us -
Once more to the shops we make our way.

To the Customer Service counter we're heading
(the queue fast-spreading & starts at the door) -
Exchanging those items we'd not be seen dead in
Or a size-larger slipper to prevent a heel-sore.

Of course we said "thank you" and acted delighted
Such good intentions we know have been meant;
Not for a moment must the giving be blighted
With loving good wishes each gift had been sent.

Printed by **DATAPRINT, 11a West Way, Botley.**

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
12.00 pm	Weightwatchers	<i>Caudwell DC</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>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)	
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>

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