

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Dave Lee

Volume 34 No. 5

June 2011

FOOTBALL CLUB

Paul Evans

The end of the football season is almost upon us (I hear some of you cry, "thank god for that"), but we at Drayton Football Club are already planning for next season. As mentioned previously, this season has been very challenging, but the reserves did finish on a high when they won The Nairn Paul Cup Final at Abingdon United, beating Benson Reserves 3-2 in a pulsating match. Here is a summary of all the team's performances this season.

The First Team unfortunately finished bottom of Division One and look as if they will be playing Division Two football next season.

The Reserves, as well as winning The Nairn Paul Cup, successfully staved off relegation from Division Three with a strong finish to the season, winning six of their last seven matches.

The Under 18's finished fourth in The Oxfordshire Invitation Youth League, just two points off the runners-up spot. They also attempt to defend their crown at The Summertown Sixes on the 19th of June. Good luck boys.

The Under 11's finished eighth in The 'D' section of The Oxford Mail Boys League, but had a couple of noticeable results, in particular, beating Ardington Eagles 4-0 just before Christmas.

The Under 10's finished fourth in The Green League of The Oxford Mail Boys League, and but for a slow start (new manager/players) to the season, they may well have been challenging for honours, (roll on next season).

The club will be holding its End of Season Presentation Night at Drayton Golf Club on Friday 3rd June 2011. This night will also double up as a race night, so anyone and everyone are more than welcome to join us (we'll try and keep the presentation/speeches short). The night will commence at 7pm. Entrance is free of charge, but we will expect you to have a flutter, and partake in the raffle. Picky food will be provided. Please spread the word, and contact Paul Evans on 01235 203108 or at Evans42@ntlworld.com if you need any more details.



*The victorious Drayton Reserves side pictured after winning The Nairn Paul Cup at Abingdon United on Saturday 30th April. Our thanks must go to Members of Drayton Wasps under 11s, who did a fantastic job as ball boys on the day
(Picture including the Wasps under 11s on Page 3)*

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Gould

The 2011 Club Championships have been completed. The Juniors Tournament for under 18's was the first to be held. The evening event went very well with plenty of parents there to support. We had nine entries & the players were split into two leagues. The matches were the best of five games. This produced four semi finalists. In the first, James Cooper beat Ryan Seamark in five games winning the decider 12-10. In the second semi final, Alex Rodman defeated Ryan Gimigliano in four games. The final also went to four games with Alex defeating James to become our Junior Champion. The Doubles tournament was played on a round robin league. James Cooper & Ryan Gimigliano came through as our Junior Doubles Champions with David Craig & Alex Rodman as runners up.

The Cadets Tournament, for under 15's, had an entry of twelve and was also very well supported by parents. We had two leagues of six, each match being the best of three games. This produced four quarter finals. Winning through to the semi finals were James Cooper who played Helen Hudson and Josh Selby who played Mikey Young. James beat Helen 12-10 in the third game and Josh won through against Mikey with one epic game going 24-22 in Josh's favour. The final was best of five games and Josh won 3-1 to become our youngest ever Cadets Champion at the age of 10. In the doubles, the pairings resulted in a final between Harry Jones-Locke & David Craig who defeated Jordan Powell & Josh Selby 2-0.

The Club Senior Championships were held on Sunday 8th May. Starting at 9.30 a.m. with a reduced entry of thirteen players meant we finished by 4 pm. The day went well with three competitions, a Singles, a Doubles and a Plate event. The Plate event for the early losers was won by John Gould who defeated Steve Rodman in the final. The Doubles attempts to pair stronger players with weaker ones and resulted in a Final of Andrew Cudden & David Hudson playing David's son Rob Hudson & Ryan Seamark. The final started well Andrew & David winning the first two games but then son Rob & Ryan rallied to take the next three games to become 2011 Doubles Champions.

The Singles had two leagues of round robin matches, this produced four quarter finals. In the Semi-finals, Alex Rodman won through to play Geoff Cherrill & Ryan Seamark played Tony Krason. Alex beat Geoff in five games and Ryan beat Tony in four. Geoff was suffering with blisters having completed a 20 miles walk the day before! The Final resulted in Ryan beating Alex in four sets. Therefore Ryan Seamark is Drayton Club Singles Champion 2011.



The Club AGM is on Monday 6th June at Drayton Football Club starting 7.30pm. We welcome all club members and anyone else who is considering joining the club.

Ryan is pictured here after receiving his trophy from the Club Chairman, Tony Krason

Will you be switched off? – P5

Boules anyone? – P6

Your letters – P6

Bowls – P10

Season with herbs – P7

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Chronicle** will be the **July** issue:

Editor: **Derek Pooley, 11 Halls Close (559454).**

Distributor: **Helen Brassington, 1 Cheers Farm (534045),**

Deadline for advertisements: **17.00 on Friday, 10 June 2011**

Deadline for other contributions: **17.00 on Monday, 13 June**

Printed copies available: **Friday, 24 June 2011**

Key dates for the subsequent three Chronicles:

Issue for	Deadline for contributions: 17.00 on Monday:	Printed Chronicles available on:
August	18 July 2011	29 July 2011
September	15 August 2011	26 August 2011
October	19 September 2011	30 September 2011

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

However, please also note that the editor has to ensure that each Chronicle fits exactly into an even number of printed pages. The editor therefore reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required.

A contribution or advertising request can be sent to us in one of three ways:

1. The best is by **email** to **editor@draytonchronicle.net**. Your contributions should either be embedded in your email as **plain text** or attached as a **rich-text** or **Microsoft Word** document!

Requests for advertisements should be emailed not to the editor but to **advertising@draytonchronicle.net**. Please note that advertisements eventually need to be in Word format, 9cms wide and, for a single block advert, about 4.5cms high

Please head your email and label any attachments with a name distinctive to you, not just 'Chronicle'. Also, make sure the editor or advertising manager acknowledges your email within 2 or 3 days.

2. If you cannot send your contribution by email, send us a **good quality paper version**, using fairly large, **simple** black typescript, without underlining on white paper, A4 or smaller.

3. Finally, we do accept **hand-written items**. However, in this case **please write the names of people and places in capital letters**. This does save a lot of mistakes.

Paper contributions should be either placed in the Chronicle letter box (outside Vickery's shop on Drayton Green) or posted to Vickery's at 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JA.

After the deadlines listed at the top of this page, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed or delivered directly to the **Editor's** house by the Wednesday following the deadlines.

ADVERTISING RATES

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Advertiser Category:	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£5.00	£14.00	£25.50	£48.00
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Double-size adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates.

All advertising MUST be paid for up-front, either in cash or via a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at or sent to Vickery's.

If you wish to discuss your requirements please phone **Stephen Fearnley**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, on 531347 or email him at **advertising@draytonchronicle.net**.

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon Promoter

RESULTS OF THE MAY LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	0095	J. Brown, 93, Abingdon Rd	Julie Brown
£20	1177	Mr. Bone, Meadow Cottage, High St	Mary Alexander
£15	1583	J. Bowers, 8, Haywards Rd	Judith Dunster
£10	0469	R. Bruce, 4, Green Acres	Keith Clough
£10	2553	W. Matthews, 18, High Street	Darren McDonald
£10	1916	Mrs. Parker, 7, Lock Way	Christine Sadler
£10	2363	Mr. Downs, "Woodside"	Claire Soper
£10	0459	Mrs. Cook, 1, Greenacres	Keith Clough
£10	2168	Caroline Macharia, 50, Lyford Close	Andrew Bax
£10	1704	M. Woodley, 25, Binning Close	Cathy Norris

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ELECTION REFLECTION

Richard Webber

Two years ago, I fought an election for the Oxfordshire County Division of South Abingdon and Drayton. I lost – narrowly – but I lost. In my innocence, I argued that the roads were in a bad state, the traffic was a mess, youth services were underfunded and all the ways I thought I would do better as a County Councillor than my opponents. No-one wanted to talk about these things. All they wanted to talk about was MPs expenses and what a corrupt self-interested bunch they had all become. All politicians were the same. They were all only interested in lining their own pockets. None of it was actually true of local politicians – none of whom do it for the money (indeed that is one reason why it is so hard for all parties to find good local candidates) - but I have no doubt that MPs expenses became the overwhelmingly dominant issue in the May 2009 County elections.

This May, I have paced up and down the streets trying to talk about the issues which affect the District Council – the Waste Collection service, Leisure Services, Town Centre vitality and so on. I should have known – these were not the issues that people wanted to talk about. Student Fees, and what was going on in Westminster were the issues which people wanted to talk about – those who were still remotely interested in talking or listening at all. Very few wanted to talk about the National Referendum – ‘Can’t be bothered to think about it – better say ‘no’ to be on the safe side’ – was about the level of the argument. The next District election is due to be held on the same day as the next General Election, so nothing looks like changing in a hurry. All a bit depressing, really.

But I would like to thank the 409 Drayton residents who ensured that I would be your District Councillor for the next four years. I am sorry that those who did not vote for me (a little over 50%) and did not get what they want. I am a little sad that neither of my opponents lived in this village, or showed their faces in Drayton and, as far as I know, neither produced any literature in support of their candidacy. I don’t blame them for this – it is just one more rather depressing piece of evidence of how distanced and disenchanted most people are from politics in this country and apparently happy to be so. I will, of course, do my level best to represent everyone in the village.

But that is an easy thing to say. Generally there will be no conflict of interest, but in the same way that my MP, my County Council and now my District Council almost certainly do not represent my views on what matters most to me (the environment and Britain’s future in Europe), I cannot pretend that I can support the interests of people whose views differ when it comes to environmental issues or the need to work with, rather than against the EU. Fortunately, there is no such thing as a Conservative waste bin or a Liberal Democrat traffic light or a Labour swimming pool, so there will be no conflict.

But people feel increasingly disenchanted and unrepresented. Far too many of them don’t vote and far too few of them don’t understand the difference between local and national politics, let alone the different responsibilities of different councils. ⇨

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⇨ There is, of course a solution to the problem of how to get people more engaged in politics and feeling better represented. It is true Proportional Representation. And at that point I will sign off before I get too depressed.



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Picture carried over from the football item on page 1, showing members of the Drayton Wasps under 11s who acted as ballboys in the final of the Nairn Paul Cup

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 when there is a non-Eucharistic Praise Service.
 Mon - Fri 8.30 am Morning Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel
 Thurs 9.30 am Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.
 Please note that there is no 10am service on 12th June

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Wednesday 10.30 am Pebbles (Term Time only) *Church Room*
 Monday 7.45 pm Bell Ringing Practice *Bell Tower*
 Every Second Friday 7.00 pm Choir Practice *Church Room*

CHURCH REGISTER

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8th May Laila Wickens
 22nd May Samuel Oliver Hunt and
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CALENDAR FOR JUNE

Tue 7th 3.00 pm First Tuesday Connections *Church Room*

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5th to 11th Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres;
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 12th to 25th Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close;
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 26th June to 2nd July High Street; Chiers Drive;
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- 11.15 am Presently only one morning service per month. This is the Family Service, and is on the first Sunday of each month
- 6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service frequently with guest speakers. Communion every second Sunday of the month

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton
Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS **Jean Hager**

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 3.00 pm to 4:30 pm and you are invited to drop in during these times. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our next two dates are 7th June and 5th July. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.

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This September, the analogue television signal will be switched off forever and replaced with a digital signal. If your TV is not digital-compatible, you will not be able to watch TV!

There are two Switchover dates for Oxfordshire. 14 September: (BBC2) and 28 September (all remaining analogue channels: ITV, BBC1, Channel 4, Channel 5).

If you already have Freeview, Freesat, cable TV, or satellite TV you don't need to worry, you're already digital-compatible.

The Switchover Helpscheme will assist people to convert their TV to digital if they are aged 75 or over; get or could get Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance or mobility supplement; have lived in a care home for six months or more; or are registered blind or partially sighted.

Visit the Digital UK website for more information: <http://www.digitaluk.co.uk/>

If you are not connected to the Internet you can telephone 08456 505050 for information about the Switchover or *Freephone* 0800 408 5900 for information about the Switchover Helpscheme. You can also contact Jayne Bullock at ORCC on 01865 883488.

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DAMASCUS/YOUTH PAGE

Beverley Rayner: Interviewed by **Chelsea Dennis.**

Beverley has lived in Drayton for 24 years and has brought her three children up in the village.

Q) What do you think is special about living in a rural community?

“Everybody knows everyone else, and most people are friendly towards each other. It was good bringing up children in Drayton until they hit their teens and wanted to be in Abingdon all the time as there was more going on there. The community vibe at Drayton school was really good.”

Q) Over the years, what changes have you seen in rural community life from your experience of living in Drayton?

“There is less community spirit than there was in the past. It used to be a lot safer for the children to play in the streets. We have Damascus now, which does give the young people something to do and concentrate on.”

Q) Please tell us about any favourite activities, sports or past times that you are interested in?

“I went to Table tennis club for years. I run Paws at Drayton school. If anyone has 4-11 year olds who would like to join, contact the school. Its open to everyone, not just those from Drayton school.”

Q) Do you have a favourite place in Drayton?

“When the kids were small I loved the park.”

Q) Do you have any positive advice for the young people in the village?

“Go to school, get your qualifications, a lot of young people are not worried about school, with my kids I know that they wish they had tried harder when at school!”

Q) Can you remember something memorable from your teenage years?

“We used to cycle from Crowmarsh to Chalgrove in the holidays. I used to roam around the village with my friend, the policemen’s daughter. We used to breathalyse each other. There wasn’t an ice rink in Oxford so we used to go to Richmond in London to skate.”

Andrew Gould’s Note: *I have personally known Bev since I was very young. We played in the same Table tennis team and as I got older, Bev and I used to look after the team with the younger players. It was probably a lot to do with Bev why I first got interested in working with young people.*

YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

My name is John Sheppard, I have recently moved into No 5 Mott Cottages, the Green, Drayton after living & working in the South of France for nine years. While there I played Boule once a week with a party of chaps for fun & a couple of glasses of wine over lunch, & wondered if anyone in Drayton would be interested in forming a Boules club here. If anyone is interested, please contact me on 01235 524480 or 07790940372. Many thanks.

John Sheppard.

Dear Editor,

My husband and myself would like to thank Andrew and Barbara of the Red Lion, Drayton for letting us play the Antony Belcher darts trophy. We played it for Maggies in memory of Brian Crook. We made £123.

We would also like to say thank you to everybody who donated raffle prizes.

We really appreciate everybody who took part. Thank you Caroline for doing the draw and organizing it on the night.

Thank you all very much.

Mervin and Freda Belcher

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank friends, neighbours and dog walkers for the cards and messages of sympathy sent to me on the loss of my partner, Les. It was a comfort knowing that so many people cared.

Margaret Cox

Dear Editor

As Chair of the Drayton Preschool, I am very concerned that this year we have a lack of volunteers to join the committee from the pool of parents of children attending the preschool. If we don’t have a viable committee, then steps will be taken to close the Preschool for good. I am writing to ask if there is anyone within the community with an interest in early years education, who has some free time to join the committee as an affiliate member, and assist in the management of the Preschool for the forthcoming academic year. Please call me on 01235 554257 or email chairdraytonps@btconnect.com for further details.

Thank you.

Andrew Watts, Chair, Drayton Preschool

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ALL ABOUT HERBS

Herbs are so easy to grow in the garden and not only look more appetizing than the dried offerings found in jars in supermarkets but taste significantly better. Grow them in pots, planters, raised beds, amongst flowers and vegetables in the border or simply in a dedicated herb area in a sunny spot in the garden. Make sure the area is well drained as herbs don't like to sit in water.

We're so used to seeing pots of herbs for sale and probably don't give their origins a second thought. In fact, herbs have played an important role in human societies for centuries; not only were they used to flavour foods but were used to make perfumes, as remedies, as health supplements and even used as currency (the Ancient Greeks regarded dill as a sign of wealth). Not much has changed though apart from the use of herbs as legal tender.

There are many interesting ways in which herbs have been utilised and their uses make for fascinating reading. Indians thought that if a basil leaf was buried with them, their passage to heaven would be assured. In contrast, the Greeks thoroughly disliked basil, assuming that scorpions bred under the growing pots. Oregano was planted in graveyards in the belief that it offered comfort to the departed and as a guarantee to their eternal peace and happiness.

Chives were used in Ancient Rome to relieve pain from sunburn, to cure a sore throat, to increase blood pressure if low and to act as a diuretic. In the Middle Ages, chives were also used for the treatment of depression. The Dutch intentionally planted chives in meadows so cows would produce chive-flavoured milk (why would anyone want to drink milk that tasted of onions?).

The Greeks, Romans and Egyptians maintained that coriander was an aphrodisiac and used dill to make love potions. Combine these two beliefs with the Ancient Greeks conviction that anointing oneself with marjoram or oregano would result in dreaming of one's future spouse and we have a recipe for success. Less excitingly, marjoram or oregano leaves were chewed to relieve indigestion, toothache, coughs and rheumatism during the Middle Ages (oregano is wild marjoram and has a stronger flavour). Parsley was also used as a medicine to help relieve rheumatism, kidney pains and improve general health.

In Ancient Greece, students regularly wore garlands of rosemary braided into their hair or around their necks in order to improve their memory when taking exams. Sage was believed to increase mental acuity in Roman times. It was used in the Middle Ages as a healing herb to treat memory loss, epilepsy and fevers, infection, intestinal and eye problems. Maybe we could take rosemary and sage into exam halls in the hope of achieving greater success or to stem memory loss later in life. Food for thought.

Middle Ages thinking was that some herbs held mystical powers. Mint was used to neutralize the "evil eye". Drinking an infusion of dill leaves would offer protection against a curse or witchcraft. Burning dill leaves was thought to calm thunderstorms. Putting a freshly-cut sprig of rosemary under a pillow would ensure a good night's sleep and prevent nightmares. Rosemary was used in Ancient Greece to drive away evil spirits; chives were used in the same way in the Middle Ages.

Thyme has been used as an antiseptic for thousands of years and the early Egyptians used it as part of the mummification process. The Greeks used thyme as an ingredient in bath oils and for medicinal purposes. The Ancient Romans would bathe in water scented with thyme before going into battle. Maybe our politicians should do the same.

Mint was used by the Romans as a symbol of hospitality. They also used it as a decoration in banqueting halls. On the other hand, Greek athletes used bruised mint leaves as a cooling lotion after bathing. Many centuries later, mint was used in homes to provide a pleasant aroma to probably not so fragrant Middle Aged houses. And it was believed that if rosemary flourished in the garden, the woman of the house was the dominant force. Happy rosemary planting!

Anne Hendry, Newington Nurseries, Wallingford

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Williams

Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16th May 2011.

As regular readers of the Drayton Chronicle will know, the Parish Council reached the end of its four-year term with the local elections on May 5th. Seven councillors submitted themselves for re-election, and were returned to office unopposed. They were joined on Monday evening by one new co-opted councillor, Laurence Zipson, to whom we extend a warm welcome. As has been explained on a number of occasions in the Chronicle, Drayton is entitled to 11 Parish Councillors, so there remain 3 vacancies to be filled.

The formal part of the meeting concerned the appointment or re-appointment of various committee chairs, and Daniel Scharf was re-elected Chairman of the Council. Julian Fowler is Chair of the Finance Committee, and Heather Morrison Chair of the Planning Committee. For the Working Groups, Jenny Pooley chairs Rights of Way and Conservation; Richard Williams Leisure and General Purposes, and Laurence Zipson agreed to head up a new group to cover Press and Public Relations. One further new appointment has been Steve Sadler, who has taken on the role of Village Caretaker, while Julian Cook continues to be responsible for grass-cutting around the village.

Our two County Councillors, Mike and Marilyn Badcock were unable to attend the meeting and sent their apologies. Richard Webber, who is both a Parish Councillor and our District Councillor, was re-elected to serve as District Councillor for Drayton and has been elected by his colleagues to be Leader of the (Lib Dem) Opposition for the VOWH DC. This will undoubtedly keep Richard very busy, but his commitment to the Parish Council is undiminished, and he is planning to organise an Apple 'n Walnut Festival, hopefully to take place on the Millennium Green, sometime this autumn.

One transport issue which is fairly urgent (see below) has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council. All Drayton residents, but especially bus users, should be aware that the current County Council contracts for subsidised bus services come to an end on 10th December 2011. All such services are being reviewed and it appears that two routes that serve Drayton are under threat. These are: the evening service between Abingdon and Didcot - the 32B/C - provided by Thames Travel; and the Sunday X2 service (Oxford Bus Company), also between Abingdon and Didcot. The Mon-Sat X2 daytime service appears to be safe.

The bus companies maintain (with some truth) that these services are not well used, and whilst we have to accept that subsidies do not come from a bottomless bucket, it is a fact that a number of Drayton residents are totally reliant on these services and have no practical alternative method of getting around. In addition, to get from Oxford to Drayton in the evenings, it is necessary to split the journey at Abingdon, and change to the 32B/C service to Drayton. Should anyone just miss their connection, they would then have to wait a whole hour for the next bus, which is hardly an incentive to make use of the service. It would seem logical that if the X2 were an uninterrupted service all the way from Oxford to Didcot until 11pm every night, it would encourage more people going out for the evening in Oxford to use public transport instead of their cars: at any rate, the route would surely attract more passengers.

Whether or not you or members of your family are bus users, if you wish to support the retention of these services, or have any other comments that you would like the Council to consider, please do contact them and make your views known. There is a 'Respond to a Consultation' link on the home page of the OCC website (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk) and a further link to the bus review can be found there. Please be advised that the absolute deadline for sending in your comments is Friday 3rd June, ⇨

⇨ i.e. only a very few days after this issue of the Chronicle is published. In other words, if you want to have your say, don't delay!

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 6th June 2011, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane. As ever, all are welcome to attend.



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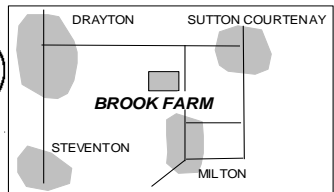
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ALL AROUND

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Pearl Stanbridge

Thanks to all who supported the Poppy Walk at Harwell held recently.

The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 20th June at 8 pm.

DRAYTON WIVES Pam Lacey

At our April meeting Rosemary and Tony Hadland gave a very interesting talk on their visit to the Falkland Islands. Their son who was serving with the RAF on the islands was able to act as their guide which enabled them to visit not only the well-known locations but those usually less accessible to the public. The talk was accompanied by some wonderful slides of the islands and in particular the wildlife, especially the penguins.

Dates for your Diary in June:

COFFEE	Mon 13	Vera, Ann, Mary
WALK	Thurs 16	Guided walk at Earth Trust
WHIST	Mon 20	Barbara Carter
LUNCH	Wed 29	50th Birthday Lunch, Steventon House Hotel

DRAYTON 1st BROWNIES Paula Harper

Brownies greatly enjoyed celebrating our own Royal Wedding Party complete with bunting, flags and a wedding cake.

We have been busy working towards our Wildlife Explorer badge, this included a gardening event growing living salads and a pizza in a pot and making lovely bird feeders. We are also taking part in the RSPB big garden bird watch event and are heading towards the Millennium Green to record wildlife found.

We have also been working towards our Science Investigator badge. We would like to express our thanks to Dr Dan Faircloth representing STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory for his excellent interactive demonstration of electromagnetism.

Meetings are held at Drayton village Hall, on Wednesdays during school term time 6.15pm – 7.45pm. Meetings are open to all girls aged between 7 – 10 years old.

Further details are available from:-

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

GARD UPDATE Nick Thompson

After a lull in proceedings the Environment Agency has now given advice to Defra on how to direct Thames Water to change their Water Resources Plan, which was found to be "Not fit for Purpose and Not Compliant" following the Public Inquiry.

The 100Mm3 Abingdon reservoir was ruled out, but a half size one allowed as an option. We have been monitoring the advice given by the Environment Agency and trying to influence it to ensure that all options are properly considered and researched.

As Thames Water have lost over a year by their own failure to produce an acceptable plan, they have been given the minimum work to do to make the current plan acceptable so that they can legally start to implement it. The major changes to preferred options will have to come in the next plan in 2014 covering the period to 2040. Meanwhile GARD will have to ensure that the necessary work is done properly, which is not easy since Thames Water commissions and pays specialist consultants to do the research and to come up with the answers (the dangers are obvious!).

GARD has already met with the Environment Agency team twice recently and made a little progress, but officials do not like to admit they do not have all the answers.

It has been a long battle and only a battle. The war continues and we hope the cheaper Severn – Thames water transfer ➡

➡ options will be properly and independently researched. The present shortage of rain will naturally be used to the maximum advantage by Thames Water. I will report when there is news.

The thanks of the Drayton Parish Council for GARD's efforts were particularly appreciated.

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MORE ALL AROUND

SCHOOL REPORT

Dawn Waddup

School News

We are all looking forward to the **Summer Fete on Saturday 18 June**. Please keep your fingers crossed for good weather and join us at the school from **12 noon until 2pm**. Attractions will include a Grand Raffle, barbecue, cream teas, classic cars, bouncy castles and much, much more including plenty of activities and entertainment for all!

The Wild Waste Bus visited Robins and Ravens classes at the beginning of May. The children learned about re-using and recycling items, which would normally go to waste and what happens to our rubbish when it leaves our houses. They had the opportunity to make bugs and butterflies from recycled materials.

Robins Class (Reception and Year 1) have called their summer term topic "I Spy with my Little Eye". The children will learn about life cycles, plants, mini beasts, habitats and seaside localities. They are also looking forward to a Teddy Bears' Picnic and a trip to Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre.

Ravens Class (Years 1 and 2) are on "Walkabout" this term and will be exploring the local area, looking at roads, footpaths, businesses, houses, playgrounds and parks. In science, they will be studying plants and animals in different habitats and investigating forces in motion. This links in with a design and technology activity designing and making models of playground equipment. Music and dance will follow a weather theme. The class are pleased to welcome a PGCE student from Oxford Brookes University, who will be working with them for 8 weeks.

Red Kites (Year 3) will be Community Explorers this term. They will be creating maps and collages whilst investigating and consolidating their geographical skills and knowledge of the UK. In English, they will be creating leaflets supported by real life observations and using their imagination in creative writing to write adventure stories. They will also be producing their own book reviews to recommend high quality texts for others to read. In science, art and design & technology pupils will make a Jack-in-the-box and magnetic games.

Kingfishers (Years 4 and 5) have started their "Wind in the Willows" topic, based on water and rivers. Six pupils have received awards in the times tables award scheme and the three children, who are battling to get down to two and a half minutes for the completion of 100 questions in the Champions Cup, have got their times down to four minutes and four minutes ten seconds (two of them achieving the latter). Some parents have tried this, it's exceptionally hard!

Eagles Class (Years 5 and 6) are also joined by a student from Oxford Brookes this term, during which they will be focussing on Ancient Greece. Pupils will study Gods, Goddesses, heroes and many aspects of this fascinating civilization. Year 6 pupils have been busy doing their Statutory Attainment Tests (SATs) which made for a very busy time all round.

They will be participating in the County Council Chairman's Cup Under 11 Tag Rugby Competition and a group will also be taking part in an individual table tennis tournament at Fitzharrys School. We hope to bring you good news of their performance in the next issue!

If you have not already seen it, take a look at our new website www.draytonpri.oxon.sch.uk where you can find out more about the school and see some great pictures too!

BOWLS CLUB

Roll up

We start these notes with a reminder to all members that Annual General meeting will be held on Wednesday June 22nd 7 for 7-30 pm in the main hall.

There have been more internal competitions to report on; firstly, 'The Doreen Jones never won singles' was played for on 17th of April and going through to play the final will be Doug Rich and Olive Brown. May saw the end of 'The Rose Bowl triple league',

this competition has been running since January, and the winners of the Monday league were, Jack Mitchenson, Ivy Harrison, and Pam Lacey, who will play the Wednesday league winners who were, Tony Wright, Jan Cook, and Ian Norris, many congratulations to all those going through to play these finals which will take place on December 4th.

The club will be entering two teams in the summer triple league and these get underway in the first week in June, and we will be hoping for another successful competition.

DRAYTON W.I.

Brenda Malin

May has been a very busy month for us. At the beginning of the month, we hosted a group meeting for over one hundred members from neighbouring villages. The evening was spell binding with wonderful renditions of Edith Piaf songs interspersed with her life story. Close your eyes and you were on the sidewalks of Paris and 'The Little Sparrow' was serenading you.

May is the month, nearly a quarter of a million members of the W.I. including Drayton W.I. continue their campaigning, as they have done for the past 90 years, to challenge Her Majesty's Government over matters that affect us all. This Year we are campaigning about the Closure of Local Libraries and proposed Mega Farms. The result of the voting will be announced at the AGM, in Liverpool later this year.

After all that debating our members were treated to a very interesting talk on Bee Keeping. Not only do you have to watch you don't get stung but also watch the green woodpecker doesn't invade your hive.

What next, a nice long drink. Thursday June 9th. An Outing to Brightwell Vineyard.

We meet every second Thursday of the month in Caudwell Day Centre at 7p.m.; you are most welcome to come and visit to see what the 'Twenty First Century' W.I. is all about.

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YET MORE ALL AROUND

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP **Vicky Cotterell**

Hi to everyone and hope you are all well. We would like to say a big hello to all that have joined us this month and hope that you are enjoying our group.

This month we will be making things ready for Father's day, as well as playing with all our toys and friends.

Just a reminder that if you are thinking of hiring the village hall you can borrow our equipment for your use – we just ask for a donation and replacement of anything damaged.

Thanks as always to Joy for our snacks and tea or coffee.

The Baby and Toddler Group is held on Thursday 9.30-11.30 term time only in the village hall. For more information call Vicky 07779243290

PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP **Debbie Bargas**

We have been spending time in the preschool garden, potting, planting and tidying. Many thanks to those who have donated various items such as compost and plants, these are very much appreciated and help to make our garden nicer for all.

We return to Preschool on Monday 6th June and sessions finish for the summer on Wednesday 20th July. We will be having a picnic on Friday 22nd July, more details to follow.

We have decided to postpone our AGM until late September/early October, this will allow parents with children starting in September to become involved if they wish. This is a very important meeting for Preschool as we will be looking to elect new officers to the committee. We need a Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. These three important roles MUST be filled for Preschool to continue, we would also like general members who are also important to help with new ideas and fundraising items. Further details will follow.

We will have spaces available for September 2011. Do you have a child who is approaching 2½yrs? We are happy to put younger children onto our waiting list. Please do keep supporting us, the children have great fun and are always learning new things. Please contact Preschool on 01235 536094 or draytonpreschool@btconnect.com for a welcome pack or to visit.

There is an easy way to help our fundraising, if you order goods via the internet, you can register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk You choose a charity, we are on the list, then when you buy online from major companies like Amazon, Next, Play.com, Churchill Insurance, AA, Ebay and The Book People, They give a percentage to us at no extra cost to you.

DRAYTON ART GROUP **Eric Curtis**

Once again we held a most successful art exhibition. It was nice to see so many paintings done to quite an exciting standard but some paintings were not signed. It is nice to know who the artist is, especially when the expertise is appreciated.

Thanks go to all the artists and friends who helped in many ways, including Geoff Samworth with the plant stall and Hilary Parkin who stepped in at the last minute in the kitchen serving teas when a helper became incapacitated.

The members are now eagerly looking forward to their summer outing.

DRAYTON HALL REPORT **Ann Webb**

The Hall AGM was held on the 16th of May to a very small audience. Our secretary was unavoidably absent so one of our members took the minutes. It was reported that several jobs had been completed, namely, the soffits and guttering replaced, the carpark relined, and a blind installed at the kitchen window. We had a brief visit from our local councillor, who had left the Mayor making ceremony in Abingdon, popped in to apologise for his absence and hurried off to the Parish Council meeting. What a dedicated man he is! All the committee is to remain the ⇨

⇨ same as last year and the financial statement was presented and accepted. The statement showed that we were still just under the breakeven level, but with the help of the Parish Council, we had completed several large and small repairs and improvements which would otherwise not have been possible and the fabric of the building would have started to deteriorate. The Chairman briefly summarised the events and happenings of the year just ending, and said that the project for the coming year is to add some badly needed extra storage space to the rear of the building and may be some new curtains. Who knows, we may be able to replace the windows one day soon.

We would like to thank all our loyal patrons without whom the Hall would definitely struggle. Welcome to some new users, who, together with all the people who come back and use the Hall time and again because they like it, makes my job very rewarding. Thank you.

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DRAYTON DIARY

FOR JUNE

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise
(To book Drayton Hall call Ann Webb on 531418)
website address www.draytonvh.org.uk

Regular Events are listed opposite

Fri	3rd	Private party	
Sat	4th	Wedding reception	
Sun	5th	Private party	
Mon	6th	7.30 pm Parish Council Meeting	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
Sat	11th	Private party	
Sun	12th	Private party	
Mon	13th	5.00 pm Chronicle copy deadline	<i>Vickery's box</i>
Sat	18th	Private booking	
Sun	19th	Private booking	
Sun	26th	Bowls – All day	

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REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
12-12.30pm	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>
6.00 – 7.30 pm	Youthzone (Except Bank Holidays)	
6.30 – 7.30pm	Novice Table Tennis Coaching	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 – 8.30pm	Junior/Improvers Table Tennis Coaching	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 – 8.45 pm	Drayton Drop In (Except Bank Holidays)	
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
8.30 – 10.00pm	Senior Table Tennis Practice	<i>School</i>

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	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (First Thursday in Month)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (in Term)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.45pm	Choir Practice (fortnightly)	<i>St Peter's</i>

SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (Praise Service 3rd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
11.15 am	Family Time (1st Sunday)	<i>Baptist Church</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	<i>Baptist Church</i>

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