

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 35 No. 5

June 2012

## Parish Council – Village Plan!

Report of the Annual Parish Meeting of Drayton Parish Council, held on Mon 14<sup>th</sup> May, attended by 14 members of the public, also Parish Councillors and our County Councillor, Mike Badcock.

**Daniel Scharf and Heather Morrison** were re-elected PC Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. **Naomi Broomfield** is the new Chair of the Finance Committee, other committee and working groups remain unchanged. And we have one new councillor, **David O'Dowling**, co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Once again, the topic of housing dominated the public participation element of the meeting. Discussion began with the news that the Conservative ruling group on the VOWH District Council, who are responsible for housing policy in the Vale, have decided to SCRAP their Interim Housing Supply Policy (IHSP). The full text of the press release (dated 14<sup>th</sup> May) is available on the Vale's website (just enter 'IHSP' in the search box), but in summary, it says that in place of the IHSP, the Vale intend to produce a five-year housing land supply statement, plus a separate sites assessment document.

Councillors' reactions to this **sudden and wholly unexpected announcement** could best be described as mixed – on the one hand there is a sense of relief, that a policy introduced in haste, and requiring to be implemented in haste, has been withdrawn.

Essentially, the IHSP required building starts to be made within the next 18 months to 2 years, but rushed decisions on sites are not necessarily good decisions, and by definition, they reduce the time available for consultation.

On the other hand, until we see what criteria are set out by the new statement, and whether there is any further movement of goalposts, Parish councillors (not just in Drayton) would probably want to reserve judgement on the changes.

The upside of the IHSP exercise is that it has induced a number of landowners to put forward possible housing sites. The point is that the need for housing has not gone away, but that now, we at least have some idea of where the houses might go, which we did not before. Furthermore, the Parish Council continues to believe that new housing could be a positive addition to the village, but that it should be accompanied by necessary improvements in the village infrastructure.

On the latter subject, the current lack of play space in Drayton, particularly for older children and teenagers, was highlighted by **George Baker**, a young lad who recently wrote to the Parish Council requesting the provision of a skate park, and who came along to the meeting with several of his friends to put their case.

Obviously, a suitable site would need to be found for such a park, and the fact is that the PC has tried on many occasions to secure land for additional recreational facilities, but to date, without success. The truth seems to be that most landowners are either unwilling to sell land for this purpose, or only on the back of a scheme which also includes housing. It follows from this that probably the only way that Drayton will ever get new play areas, or more allotments, or any other amenities that benefit the village, is as part of a housing development.

**An Apology :-** to all contributors of items and ads for this issue, in case any don't appear quite as intended, or (hopefully not) were missed out! Firstly a crashed PC, and then it failed altogether (needing a rapid replacement, and mass transfer of data) so the editing process has been done in panic mode! (TH)

No one wants to see development on the scale proposed by some of the IHSP applications, but we are unlikely to obtain 'planning gain' from a very small site, or from several scattered sites. With this in mind, the **Parish Council are keen to develop a Village Plan**, provisionally entitled 'Drayton 2020', which will give residents of Drayton an opportunity to give their views on what they would like to see in the village of the future.

Anyone wishing to know more is invited to attend the **Jubilee Picnic on the Millennium Green on Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> June**, where it is hoped to have a **Village Plan display tent**.

**Two items of information to conclude.** So far, under 30% of the village have returned their Housing Needs Survey. Even if you or your family have no present need of affordable housing, a 'nil return' is helpful, and requires only Part 1 of the form to be completed – 3 minutes' work at the most? If you've lost/mislaid yours, Vickery's shop have kindly agreed to keep some spares. Returns will still be accepted although the deadline has passed.

**Finally, the Parish Council was asked** at this meeting how it communicates with residents about important issues affecting them, such as housing policy. The Drayton Chronicle is an obvious source of information, and one which is delivered freely to all households in the village. Alternatively, all copies of the Chronicle dating back to 2004 are now archived on the village website:- [www.drayton-near-abingdon.org](http://www.drayton-near-abingdon.org) as are the agendas and minutes of all recent Parish Council meetings. The Parish Council already E-mails notice of meetings and relevant documents to many Drayton clubs, societies and organisations. **Anyone who would like to be added to the E-mailing list** should contact the Parish Clerk at [draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk) The Vale of the White Horse District Council is the local planning authority and its website has details of all recent planning applications.

**The next Parish Council meeting** will be on Mon 11<sup>th</sup> June (NB a week later than usual, due to the Jubilee Bank Holiday on the 4<sup>th</sup>) at 7.30pm in the Caudwell Centre, Gravel Lane.

**As always, all are invited to attend.**

*Richard Williams*

**Jubilee Picnic with Music  
on the Millennium Green between  
12pm and 3pm Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Brian Thompson's Swing Band  
Childrens' Games  
Exhibition on Emerging Village Plan  
Bring your own picnic, rug and umbrella.  
**Everyone invited. Free Entry.**  
**Show you care! Be there!**

**Year Sixes in 'the Zone'?** (p 6)    **Did you get lucky?** (p 2)    **'Messy Church'** (p 4)    **Table-Top Sale** (p 3)  
**Over Webber's Wall? (or yours!)** (p 9)    **Letters** (p 7/8)    **Big Toddle** (p 3)    **Cast-offs for a Good Cause** (p 10)  
**Doggy Day Out?!** (p 13)    **Summer Fete** (p 7/10)    **Street Party!** (p 5)    **'We Made It' Comp** (p 12)

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **JULY Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday June 29th**, from **Eve & Barry Sharp (526939)**, who should be contacted by Agents requiring extra copies.

The Editor will be **David Lee (202699)**. Contributions may be e-mailed (see below, safest is to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green,

**NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, June 18th 2012.**

**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 March 16th, 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!)

to reach the 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:-
<b>August</b>	17 July	27 July
<b>Sept</b>	14 August	24 August

### ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

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

Half-size block adverts, normally for one or two inserts, are charged at half the above rates.

**All requests must be accompanied by cash or a cheque** made payable to 'Drayton Chronicle'.

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store, Drayton Green, in shopping hours, OR send your requirements :- [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net)

**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

Jean Barton, Hon. Promoter

## RESULTS OF THE MAY LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mr Berry, 22 Corneville Road	Gerald Redman
£20	Michelle Ainscough, 44 High Street	Margaret Long
£15	Mrs Darling, Stone Barn, SWk Lane	Keith Clough
£10	Mrs H Sainsbury, 41 Steventon Road	Janet Dale
£10	Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn	Keith Clough
£10	Lindsay Yew, 71 High Street	Michelle Ainscough
£10	Ruth Pacey, 16 Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	J Walker, 36 Steventon Road	Jackie Walker
£10	Mr Purcell, Highfield	Gerald Redman
£10	Norman Denton, 13 Lesparre Close	Amanda Drysdale

Winning tickets, from 1865 sold, were randomly drawn via computer (similar to Premium Bonds).

**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 BABY & TODDLER Group Vicky Cotterell

We have been busy at toddlers playing with our friends and letting the grown ups have a chat and cuppa thanks to Joy providing this and the children's snack.

By the time you read this we will have had our jubilee celebration – a little early but meant it was in term time.

We would like to say **thanks to all** who brought books from Usborne books which enabled us to have some lovely new ones for all to read.

Date for your diary – Thursday 12 July

We will be having a **day out to Cotswold wildlife park** and joining the **Big Toddle** raising funds jointly for Barnardos and Toddlers. This will also be our last of the summer term and hope all can come. More details to follow as we get them.

As usual Toddlers is on in term time 9.30-11.30 in the village hall, for more info please **contact Vicky** 07779 243290

## W.I. Table Top Sale

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## DRAYTON WIVES

Gwen Price

The meeting in April was our A.G.M. We had a good turnout which was rewarded by beautiful gateaux made by Helen Sainsbury. We had an account of last year's happenings from our retiring chairwoman Eve Sharp, who has served us so well for five years.

Margaret Watts is also retiring as treasurer. She has done a wonderful job keeping our finances in order. Five members of the committee have also decided to finish. Many thanks must be given to these members who have worked so hard in so many different ways to make Drayton Wives such a successful and happy group.

Margaret Long also gave a report and entertained us with a fun quiz.

We are fortunate to have replacements for our retiring officers, namely Josie Midwinter as chair woman and Kathy Norris as treasurer. **We still need a couple of new committee members**, so please let Josie know if you are interested.

### DATES for your DIARY in June:-

Mon 11th COFFEE:- Connie, Ellen  
Weds 13th Afternoon walk to Ardington and Lockinge  
Mon 18th Whist:- Doreen Eato  
Weds 27th Social afternoon –  
Tea and chat with Rev. Rebecca Peters.

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<b>Curate</b>	Revd Rosie Bruce	525284
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Mrs Val Cross	535183
	Mr Colin Arnold	531923
<b>Organist</b>	Vacancy	

## 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

### CALENDAR for JUNE

Tues	5th	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
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### PARISH REGISTER

<b>Funerals</b>	April 16th	Clive Alexander Robertson
	May 5th	George Edward Tinson
<b>Wedding</b>	May 11th	Paul Derek Stoneham and Lucinda Talbot

## YOU STAY – WE PRAY (June)

- 3rd to 9th Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway MHP  
 10th to 16th Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane  
 17th to 30th Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road

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## Letter from St Peter's Church

Dear Friends,

In a book containing a collection of letters that children have addressed to God, a little boy named Eric writes, "Dear God, is it okay to talk to you, even when I don't want anything? Love, Eric".

It's not only okay, Eric, it's probably best. All you need to do is to enter into union with God lovingly, trustingly, prayerfully, and God will provide you with whatever you need to make you whole.

**Prayer is a wonderful gift from God.** God is concerned about our everyday lives, the small things, the unimportant things, as well as the things that make us lie at night awake worrying. Prayer is simply talking to God and sharing our thoughts and feelings with him. We don't have to speak out loud, we could write God a letter or give over our thoughts to him. Often people I have talked to have said they just weren't sure how to start, so I often suggest saying the Lord's prayer. Maybe we could move onto thinking about who God is, saying sorry, thanking God for all that we have, and then asking for what we need.

This Summer term, Tues and Wed 2nd and 3rd July, Prayer Space in School will be teaching and demonstrating how children can pray creatively, and on Sunday July 8th at the School will be a new family event called 'Messy Church', a chance to have fun, making crafts, building things, singing, listening to a story, prayer and cakes.

All of these things are being supported and organized by Christians Together in Drayton, it's been amazing to see God at work as we support and help each other.

**All Christians are welcome to join us in prayer.** 7:30pm, St Peter's Church room, normally 3rd Thursday of the month.

**If you have any particular prayer requests** do contact us and we will pray for them at St Peter's Church.

God Bless

*Revd Rebecca Peters*



## Red Lion

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### FORTHCOMING Police 'Have Your Say' :-

Sunday May 27th 11am to 12 noon, Drayton Green, (with PCSO Sandra Syphas). For more info re your local neighbourhood team, call the (new) non-emergency number 101

## (MORE) ALL AROUND

### Drayton 1st Brownies

Paula Harper

Welcome to Abbie and Paige who have joined Brownies recently.

We have been very fortunate in taking part in a Filmmaker Project – Down Memory Lane. We were invited to go to the Abingdon Resource Centre to meet and share memories from the past and present days. The Brownies had a lovely time and would like to **thank the Staff and the ladies and gentlemen that attended the Daycare Centre** for sharing their childhood memories with us.

We are continuing our Out and About badge exploring Drayton using compasses. We have more exciting evenings including making nature collages and planning our 50's style Jubilee Party to look forward to this month.

**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

Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl) on 01235 555216

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<<< **(Re Brownies)** From Gwen Price :- In the autumn of 2010 I helped some of the Brownie group to plant bluebells in the copse near the main entrance (Sutton Wick Lane) of the Millennium Green. They must have done a good job as they are now flowering well, and I hope the girls will go and have a look at them. The bluebells should now increase in number from year to year thanks to the efforts of the Brownies.

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**DRAYTON W.I.**

**Brenda Malin**

Barbara Hatley-Broad gave a wonderful talk on the Changi Quilts at our May meeting. If, like me, and many others, your perception of the women caught up in the invasion of Singapore was as seen in the film version of 'A Town Like Alice' or the TV series of Tenco, you would have been amazed at the women who were also imprisoned in the Changi Jail. The jail is most commonly associated with a prison for the allied male soldiers and civilians caught up in the fall of Singapore.

The quilts originally were six-inch white cotton squares embroidered and signed by the women, partly to keep up morale, also, by use of imagery, to pass on information concerning the welfare of the separated women and children. One of the three original quilts can be seen at the Red Cross HQ in Guildford.

**Next month we will be celebrating** the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a street party outside the Caudwell Day Centre (if weather permits), 7.30 on Thursday 14th June.

**You are welcome to join us** - the food is reminiscent of a 50's "Paste sandwich anyone?" - Please bring your own.

# 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

### Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

The Didcot & District Table Tennis Association 2011-12 season has finished. It has been a very good one for the Club with two League Champions and two Cup competition winners. The League winners are the young G team in Division 5 and with a brilliant late run the D team came from 4<sup>th</sup> in Division 4 to finish level on points with Letcombe C at the top of the table. However as Drayton D have won more ties than Letcombe they are the Champions. In addition our E team that were in danger of relegation just avoided the drop again by winning more ties than the RAL E team that equalled their points total.

The two cup competitions saw our Bidmead Cup team win the Final tie against Grove. The team is made up of players from several divisions and in the Final our 3 of Kevin & Matt Davies plus Kavan Warrender proved too strong for the opponents. The other competition is the Handicap Shield. Drayton A reached the final after getting through a 'mini-league' and then knock-out stages. They met RAL C from Division 2. This meant the guys giving the opponents a 105 points start but despite this the team gradually reduced the deficit and ran out winners by 98 points. The team that played in the final was Karl Bushell, Matt Davies & (captain) Tony Krasen.

In the final league placings, the A team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 1, the B team 4<sup>th</sup> & the C team 6<sup>th</sup>, both in Division 2. The E team finished 8<sup>th</sup> in Division 4. In Division 5 the H team finished 5<sup>th</sup> and the F team 6<sup>th</sup>. As the G, F & H teams were made up of players in their first season of league table tennis they have done really well and hopefully enjoyed the experience.

By the time you read this we will have held our Senior Club Championships and I will report the details next month.

The picture (next column) is of 'Drayton A', (that's from the left Matt Davies, Karl Bushell, & Tony Krasen), who won the Handicap Shield Final. **Well done guys!** →>>>>

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

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## YOUTH ZONE

### Naomi Broomfield

At Easter, Youth Zone bid farewell to **Claire Soper** as the Youth Leader in Drayton. We'd like to give **our huge thanks** for all of the contributions Claire has made through Youth Zone and the difference she has made to the young people of Drayton over the years.

Claire will continue as an advisor to Gina Edge, who continues to run the group on alternate Mondays with the help of the Damascus Young Leaders and other volunteers. **Volunteers always needed**, come along and see what we do!

As the lighter nights are here, the young people are now able to make use of the outdoor activities, like football and rounders out on the football pitches.

We would also like to **welcome the year 6 children in the area** to come along to join us. The first week is FREE, and, after registration, charges are £1 per session. Tuck is available and there is usually a baking or food based activity to join in with. **Please feel free to come and take a look around.**

Future dates are:- 28th May, 11th June, 25th June, and the final date before the summer break is 9th July which will be a party and 'bring a friend' session.

Sessions are 6pm till 7.30pm in Drayton Village Hall on Mondays. **Any queries/info, please call Naomi on 532248.**



## YOUR LETTERS

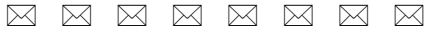
### Childrens' Society - Grateful Thanks

70 Steventon Road

The collection (April) for the Children's Society raised £124.73. **Many thanks** to the people of Binning Close, Fisher Close, Haywards Road, Lockway, Marcham Road, Steventon Road and Whitehorns Way, who all gave so generously.

Yours sincerely

Doreen Bourne



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Fascias cleaning; Gutters Unblocked & Cleaned out

### **PACE - Coffee Morning**

We would like to thank everyone who supported our PACE coffee morning on April 19th which was such a success.

Many people donated and purchased items and we were grateful for their kindness and generosity. Amazingly the sum raised was £437, identical to the amount taken last year. This sum surprised us as we didn't have the beautiful weather which had enabled more people to turn out last time.

Thank you also to Jean Hager who asked for her 80th Birthday gifts to be **donations for PACE, a lovely gesture.**

We have been asked by many people the meaning of the letters which form PACE. They stand for Positive Achievement through Conductive Education. This method, founded in Hungary, involves one-to-one interaction with cerebral palsy children. The procedures used make a huge difference to the lives of the many children who attend the PACE Centre.

Thank you all again and hope to see you next year.

Rosemary Barlow & Judy Henman

## STEWART'S DRIVING SCHOOL

### COMPETITIVE RATES

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JC\_OX14@YAHOO.CO.UK

### **UPDATE FROM GARD**

Although the newspapers have reported regularly on the drought and the hose pipe ban, not a lot has been said about reservoirs.

Certainly, storage capacity is a concern and Thames Water is accused of selling off 19 small reservoirs over the last 20 years for development and profit while their leakage levels are still far too high at about a quarter of overall demand. However, having seen the detail, they are wise to maintain the current restrictions as the flow in the Thames relies on the water held in aquifers (water bearing rocks like chalk) which are still well below normal despite recent rainfall. The desalination plant at Becton is in operation for the first time to help meet London's water requirements.

Meanwhile GARD's expert consultants are maintaining pressure on Thames Water by checking progress on the studies which the company was required to commission following the Public Inquiry. The research includes the ecological effect of low flows in the Thames due to over abstraction (which is legally required to meet the EU standards of The Water Framework Directive), the environmental assessment for the river Severn to ensure that periodic water transfer would not damage the Severn ecology, the engineering options for Severn Thames transfer including the Cotswold Canal route, and the measurement of the quality of treated effluent produced by the upgraded sewage treatment works at Deephams.

Much of this is very technical and we are fortunate to have a team which both Thames Water and the Environment Agency respect. We will continue to fight against selection of the expensive option which would flood and destroy our neighbourhood!

Nick Thompson - Hon Chairman GARD

## DRAYTON VILLAGE SUMMER FETE

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## YOUR LETTERS (extra)

### Neighbourhood Action Group 5 - Speeding

Update from NAG5 (Appleford, Drayton & Sutton Courtenay)

Anti-Speeding Poster Competition at Drayton Primary School as part of NAG5's community anti-speeding and road safety campaign. On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May it was a delight to be present at the afternoon assembly and presentation of prizes to the winners of the anti-speeding poster competition. The winners were:-

First prize - Rebecca Norkett    Second prize - Grace Alsworth

Third prize - Georgia Kogel

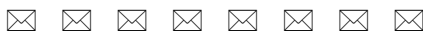
The judges were drawn from NAG5, Thames Valley Police and Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service. They were very impressed with the standard of entries and the thought put in to the designs – so **well done** to all who took part.

NAG5 would like to thank all school staff and children who took part in the competition. A lot of time and effort was involved for all participants including the police and fire services. The children enjoyed looking at the Police Van and Fire Engine parked in the school playground after the assembly.

NAG wishes to say thank you to **the parents** for their co-operation, without which it would not have taken place, the **children** for their enthusiasm and artistry and the **Head Teacher and the teachers** for their help fitting this in within a very busy school schedule. Thanks are also due to **Mandy Rigault**, the Road Safety Team Leader for Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service's Road Safety education team and **Sarah Gniadek-Pitt** the Area Road Safety Officer for the South and Vale. A special thanks to **Bridget Haffenden, Robin Wood and PCSO Sandra Syphas** for coordinating the work on behalf of NAG5.

A similar competition took place in Sutton Courtenay's primary school. Both first-prize winners will see their posters reproduced and displayed in both villages. *Simon Murray*

{NB This Project was supported by :- Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Trust, Thames Valley Police, South & Vale Community Safety Partnership, Drayton Parish Council, and Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue}



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### Drayton Football Club - Future

Dear Sir,

Marcham Road

Drayton FC have experienced many years of success both on the playing field and in providing a well-run facility for many players and supporters from the village and beyond.

Much of this success has been as a result of the efforts of a small group of committee members.

**The time has come** though where a number of these committee members feel it is the right time to hand over the reins and give others the opportunity to take the club forward.

As a result of this decision the **club now needs an influx** of members who are prepared to take on the administrative tasks currently performed by those who are stepping down.

Anyone who wishes to know more should contact **Alan Alston** on 01235 531425 (or email [apa\\_drayton@hotmail.com](mailto:apa_drayton@hotmail.com)) in the first instance to get more information and to explore how they might get involved.

The current incumbents will be very happy to perform an extended handover and if necessary provide mentoring support for however long it is required.

**Please seriously consider this appeal** as without the successful introduction of new faces it is quite possible that the club will have to consider if it can survive in its current format.

Yours Sincerely

Alan Alston

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### Self-Interest

At the risk of sounding like a grumpy old man again, I find that my interest in TV over the past decade has waned at about the same rate as the number of available channels has increased. In short, I often find TV repetitive, dull and distinctly missable.

The other night, however, almost by accident, I got hooked on a programme, about Greece, Germany and the Euro. It was presented by Michael Portillo, never my favourite politician, but a fine current affairs TV pundit. Michael's views on Europe, the EU and the Euro are certainly not mine. Perhaps not surprisingly the Greeks interviewed did not agree with him either.

What surprised me (and indeed Mr Portillo) was that the overwhelming number of Germans interviewed agreed with the Greeks. They wanted Greece to be part of Europe, and to stay with the Euro. Provided the Greeks took on the message that they were going to have to 'work harder', most Germans wanted to help them and were prepared to take further pain themselves to support Greece. The programme pointed out all the pain that Germany had already been through themselves over the unification process, and the contrast between the German approach to Europe's problems and our own was stark.

This is not the place for a European debate, but the programme did illustrate that to solve large scale problems with sustainable solutions, people had to be prepared to argue less from self interest and more for 'the good of all'. We can all agree that we are going through economic pain at present, and likely there's much more to come. The issues are 'how much pain?' and 'how do we apportion it?'. Anyone arguing their case on the grounds of 'I do not deserve any pain' - whether it be rich financiers (we need these big salaries, big bonuses etc to keep the best people), or public service employees marching to protect their pensions, or pensioners demanding more pension - weakens their case if they do not address the issue of 'who will be paying the price to protect their interests?'. Every person's protection from economic pain is someone else's additional pain. The pain must be shared fairly and be seen to be so. Self-interest not only delays solutions, it seems to me a very dubious foundation for the future. It may not be a vote-winning platform, but it needs to be said. →>>>

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### Drayton 2020 – a Neighbourhood Plan

It is true of all of us in Drayton, as anywhere else, that if you want to get people involved in things, appeal to their self interest. If someone wants to put up a skyscraper over my back fence, I will be at the enquiry like a shot. So when we're trying to get a vision of how we'd like our village to look in 2020 and beyond, it is very important that the decisions are not ruled by self-interest. The problem is that we all are. What's the solution? I can only see one. We need as many as possible to be involved, preferably everyone.

Everyone in the village will soon be receiving information on our Neighbourhood Plan. Under the Localism Act, everything agreed in the Plan will play a major part in deciding what happens in Drayton. School, Recreation, Housing, Transport, Village Hall, Employment, Shops, Pubs, facilities for the young and the elderly – it will all be in there. If there is to be a skyscraper over my back wall, it will be because the village has decided democratically, after careful discussion, that one is needed, and over my back wall is the right place for it! Clearly, I don't want it, but the way I can influence things will be to get involved. **Those who choose not to get involved will be allowing others to make the decisions.** Those who argue for things purely from self-interest will surely have less influence than those who argue for the good of all.

Please get involved and encourage others to get involved. The leaflet you'll be receiving in the next few weeks will explain how.

Hoping to see **everyone** on the **Millennium Green on Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 12-3pm for the Jubilee Picnic.** Don't forget your picnic, rug and umbrella! And if you do not want to be involved in the Neighbourhood Plan, come along anyway to **enjoy Boulevard Swing!**  
*Richard Webber*

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

**School news ...**

The summer term as always is a busy one at school. The whole school is working towards the Olympic topic with some very colourful Olympic themed displays all round school.

**Sporting events**

Kingfisher and Eagles classes will be taking part in a fencing workshop. Drayton School is not only taking part in, but also **organising** the South Abingdon Schools Olympic festival which is being held at Tilsley Park. There will be around 600 children from various South Abingdon and local village schools. We will let you know how this exciting event goes in the next Chronicle.

**Classroom news ...**

**Robins** (reception and year 1) are calling this term's topic "Ready, Steady, Go!" They are having an action packed term covering lots of topics from growing vegetables and looking at mini-beasts to travel, transport, and (of course!) the Jubilee and Olympics.

Children in **Ravens** (year 1 & 2) are thinking about living things. They are hoping for good weather so they can explore the school grounds and local area. They will be investigating various plants and animals to be found in different habitats and will be drawing maps to demonstrate their findings. And they will also be joining in with the Olympic topic.

**Red Kites** (Year 3) topic is the Olympics so everything is very sporty. Their display outside the classroom shows photographs of the children in various sporting poses around a race track, so they should be well prepared for Sports Day later in the year! In art, the children have continued to make items in clay - this time they have made coil pots based on those made by the Ancient Greeks to link in with their history studies. In PE they have been playing tennis.

In literacy, **Kingfishers'** (Year 4 & 5) first piece of writing was a biography of different Olympic Sports people, which took a lot of researching. In art, they have been working on improving their people-drawing skills using wooden artists' models to help them. They enjoyed putting the models in sporting poses before drawing sportsmen and women for their Olympic display. ==>>>

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In Science they are learning about habitats and will be visiting The Living Rainforest in June to have a day studying adaptations. This term, PE is maypole dancing and small ball skills linked to tennis.

This term **Eagles** (year 5 & 6) have been making Mrs Duffy proud by working really hard towards their SATs. Hopefully their hard work will pay off.

In RE they have been learning about the five pillars of Islam and they have created a beautifully illustrated display on this topic outside their classroom. The year six children are also thinking about their next big step on to secondary school with visits and meetings being arranged to smooth through the process.

**FODSA** (Friends of Drayton School Association) would like to **invite you** to our **School Summer Fete** on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June from 12 – 2 (see advert on p 7 – or just look for the Dalek!) Also at the School Fete, Police Community Support Officers will be displaying all the entries in the recent speed awareness poster competition which the children took part in – the winning entries will be made into road signs to be put up throughout the village.

Congratulations go to **Pat Burton** who won our Spring Quiz – **well done to everyone who took part.**

Our first **Bags2School** collection was very successful – thanks to those of you who brought in your bags of unwanted clothes etc on Bags2School day which earned FODSA a very useful £145.

Our **next collection** is on Friday **15th June**, so if anyone has any **unwanted clothes, shoes, bedding, soft toys etc** (no bric-a-brac please), leave them in a bag at the collection point just inside the school gates before 9am.



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## GARDENING TIME

### LET IT RAIN!!

April was the wettest month on record and it continues to rain at the time of writing. But our aquifers, reservoirs, rivers, lakes, gardens, plants and wildlife desperately need this precious water. Some of us have water butts, buckets and similar water-catching devices (even under-ground water storage tanks if we're that lucky) so that we can at least water some plants and vegetables especially as a hosepipe ban has been imposed upon us. However, in order to conserve even more rainwater than we do, it's possible to create 'rain gardens' which will help do this.

Rain gardens are becoming particularly important and useful in helping to protect the environment as a whole. We're experiencing more and more extremes in weather patterns and can no longer rely on winter rains and snows to see us through subsequent summers and autumns. Rain gardens not only assist in preventing deluges of storm water creating environmental havoc through flooding and the associated pollution but give our native wildlife a much-needed hand in their survival in our increasingly built-up surroundings.

A 'rain garden' is designed to catch rainwater and channel it, literally, towards a specific area of the garden. It's also known as a 'bioretention' garden - a system of pond area, soil, plants and mulch that will retain water and soak it up instead of letting it run off. Creating a bowl-shaped area of the garden will help do this and the garden can be planted with native perennials. A big garden isn't necessary; it can be postage-stamp size or an acre or more. Rainwater from roof gutters and down pipes can be directed towards the rain garden via rills. Even better would be to install a 'rain chain' or two (much more attractive than the ubiquitous yet hideous black plastic down pipes) to the gutter and channel the water into the rain garden or pond, indeed both if you have a large roof and garden to match.

Most gardens will have a low-lying point where rainwater will run to and collect. Provided this is away from the house, that will be the natural area for the rain garden. As with any new border preparation, the soil needs to be dug over to a depth of at least 60cm and new matter incorporated for the garden to work. A fairly even mix of sand, quality soil and good mulch is the ideal blend. Ensure that the pH value of the new matter is fairly neutral. Rain gardens are split into 3 zones: wet in the middle, wet-to-dry and dry at the margins so plant accordingly. Plants that can be used include *Acanthus spinosus*, *Alchemilla mollis*, *Astilbe* varieties, *Crocsmia* varieties, *Echinacea* varieties, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Geraniums*, *Hemerocallis* varieties, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Iris sibirica*, *Iris versicolor*, *Lobelia cardinalis*, *Lysimachia punctata*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Miscanthus* varieties, *Monarda didyma*, *Penstemon digitalis*, *Persicaria bistorta*, *Phlox paniculata*, *Primula vulgaris*, *Thalictrum aquilegifolium* and *Vinca minor*. A long but useful list to get this innovative concept of gardening underway.

The edges of the rain garden should be very naturalistic so any pieces of weathered timber (old logs for example), surplus stone, pebbles, etc. can be strategically arranged. These will provide cover for small insects and animals. The garden itself will soon become an oasis for wildlife and attract butterflies, bees, a variety of beneficial insects, birds and small mammals.

Rain gardens are perfect for the gardener who can't spend as much time as she or he would like to in the garden. They're low maintenance, don't require fertilizers or, it goes without saying, water! Just tidy up once or twice a year and mulch each spring in order to retain moisture and keep weeds at bay. But better, rain gardens can help to protect our environment which is at stretching point.

*Anne Hendry*

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### Letters to the Editor

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

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## Ed Vaizey MP

I have met up recently with two constituents who are succeeding against the odds. I was delighted this month to give tea to Faith Alabi from Didcot, in the House of Commons. I supported Faith's application for a bursary at the Guildhall School of Drama, without which she would have had a hard time financing her studies. She has now secured a bursary set up in memory of Josephine Hart, (late wife of Maurice Saatchi), so he came to meet her as well. Faith has been selected to perform in the Olympics opening ceremony. I look forward to her winning an Oscar.

I was also privileged to meet a very special Wallingford resident. Sharon Dumper has recently completed a course in nail technology at Abingdon and Witney College, and has won an award, recognising how she has turned her life around. Before taking the course she was virtually housebound, suffering from depression. Now she is starting her own business.

As I have promised to do every month, I will go through the campaigns and issues that have filled my mailbag. The largest number of emails I've received recently have been about fuel duty. I have also had letters about the Winsor review into Police pay and pensions, mostly from police officers; and letters on both sides of the debate over the proposals about equal marriage for same-sex couples. There has been a campaign about malnutrition in Africa and calls to commit to our continued spending on overseas aid, ahead of the upcoming G20 summit in Mexico. My other correspondence has included opinions about the proposals to reform the House of Lords. Some are concerned about the current make-up of the House of Lords, others are saying that more elections would cost too much and serve no purpose. I've also had a few emails about the recent passage of the Legal Aid Bill.

You may have heard the Vale has **abandoned its interim housing plan**. Because of the recession and other problems some of the large housing projects in the constituency have been delayed which means the council had to consult on an interim plan to deliver enough new homes to meet their five year targets. Small sites were identified in local villages including Drayton.

I know there was a lot of concern re the plans, but also many places do need a few more homes. I await the publication of their new core housing strategy which should come out soon.

I'd like to mention the '**We Made It!**' **competition** which invites young people to submit designs and ideas for an object, gadget, gizmo or toy which they would like to see made. The winning designs will be invited to a Fab Lab, the outstanding facilities provided by MIT and the Manufacturing Institute which allow anyone to make anything using high-tech methods and materials and with the support of experts. **If anyone is interested in taking part then please send an email to my address below.**

Finally, I'd like to make everyone aware of the new **Money Advice Service**, a free and independent service funded by a levy on the banks and financial services industry. It is very important that everyone has access to advice on their personal finances. The website ([www.moneyadvice.org.uk](http://www.moneyadvice.org.uk)) gives a wealth of financial advice tailored to all kinds of difficult situations. It also offers a free financial health check and a quick questionnaire to help people plan for the future. ( contact info ==>>>>>>>> )

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**RECYCLING ADVICE :- A Wide Variety of Materials** can now be recycled. Yes, your green bin is fine for the usual smaller items, but Drayton Recycling Centre (or the others round Oxon) can take many other things. Check out the excellent County Council website [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk) both for comprehensive details of exactly what they can take and where, and indeed for the revised June household bin collection dates (due to the several holidays) for which you can link through to the Vale website.

**AND do bear in mind** that until Sept 30th, the centres are all open LATE on Thursdays (until 8pm).

## PIANO TUITION

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## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

Foster carers combine a love and desire to help children with a passion and dedication to providing the best possible care.

**Could you foster?** We need short term and long term foster carers as well as carers who can just help out for weekends and school holidays for children of all ages from babies to teenagers.

Foster carers receive a comprehensive training and support package along with financial support. We need a diverse range of people with different skills and qualities to come forward so that more children are placed in the right home, first time.

Log on to [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/fostering](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/fostering) to find out more details or call 0800 7835724.

## Michael Evans

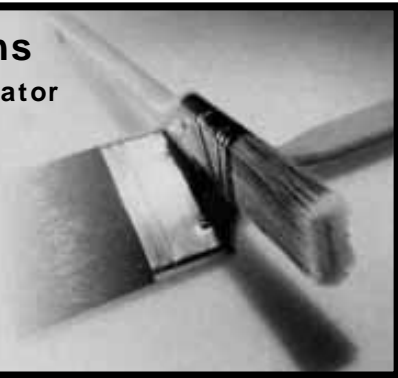
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## YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk) David Perrow ([draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk))  
OR phone 07909 176 061  
District (VofWH) Richard Webber (534001);  
& Oxfordshire County Mike & Marilyn Badcock (201810).

## LISTINGS

**Advance Notice! :-** a concert on October 6th at 19.30, featuring the very popular **Boulevard Swing** (hence the early notice) in Abingdon Guildhall to raise money for the Abingdon Hospital League of Friends. Tickets on sale at Vickery's shop.

**Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock** (closed Mons) :- from June 16th, 'Head over Heels' (Hats & Shoes through history)

**Earth Trust Jubilee Beacon Party** Little Wittenham, 6.30 to 11pm, Mon June 4th, bands, dance floor, Pimms bar, beacon lit 10.20, Tickets £2 (£4 on day) from Cornerstone Arts (Didcot) or call 01235 515144 (postage charge).

**National Animal Welfare Trust** Barn Sale June 3rd, 10am to 1pm, Come and help us raise money for our animals, 'bag a bargain' at our ever popular barn sale. All sorts, new carpet, books, bric a brac, bedding, clothes and toys, now one of the fastest growing sales in the area, so come and see what you can find, hot refreshments on offer all morning.

**And, also NAWT** Family Fun Day, Companion Dog Show (Pedigree and novelty classes) and Doggy Day Out (£1 entry, children & dogs free!!). Come and support us on our annual open day, June 23rd, 11am to 2pm, Stalls, Games, BBQ, Picnic area, Pet obedience challenge, Raffle. NAWT is at Trindledown Farm (animal rescue centre), near Great Shefford, on the A338 south from Wantage (call 01488 638584 for more details).

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## 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).

# DRAYTON DIARIES

## DIARY FOR JUNE

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

To book Drayton Hall ring 531418 To call the Hall ring 528686

Sun	3	12 noon	Jubilee Picnic (p1)	Millennium Green
Sat	9		Private Booking	
Sun	10		Private Booking	
Mon	11	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (p1)	Caudwell DC
Thur	14	7.30pm	Street Party (WI - p5)	Caudwell DC
Fri	15		Chronicle Ads Deadline (see p2)	
Sat	16		Bridge Tourney (Oxford Bridge Assoc)	
Mon	18	5.15pm	<b>CHRONICLE DEADLINE</b>	Vickery's
Fri	22		Private Function	
Sat	23	10.00am	WI TABLE-TOP Sale (p3)	
Sun	24	12 noon	FODSA Summer Fete (p7)	School
Sun	24		Bowls (all day)	
Fri	29		Private Function	
Sat	30		Private Booking	

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
10.30 am	Pilates	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
5.45 pm	Beavers (Boys / girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
6.30 pm	Youth Zone (to 7.30 except Bank Hols)	
6.30 pm	Table Tennis (New Players)	School
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Table Tennis (Senior practice + playing 2 hrs)	School
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	St Peter's
7.45 pm	Drayton Drop-In (to 8.45, except Bank Hols)	
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	

### TUESDAYS

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

### WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	Haywards Rd
11.20 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	The Green Car Pk
2.00 pm	Whist - now each week	Caudwell Day Centre
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.00 pm	Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour)	School
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	Caudwell Day Centre

### THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Foot Clinic (1st Thurs)	Caudwell Day Centre
9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Lady Chapel
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)	
11.00 am	Weightwatchers	Lounge Bar
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

### FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	Sch'l Ground Bldg
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	Caudwell Day Centre
7.00 pm	Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends)	Caudwell Day Centre

### SUNDAYS

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

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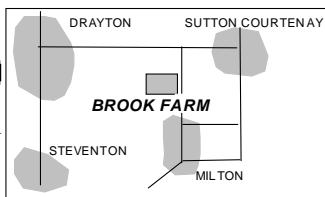


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